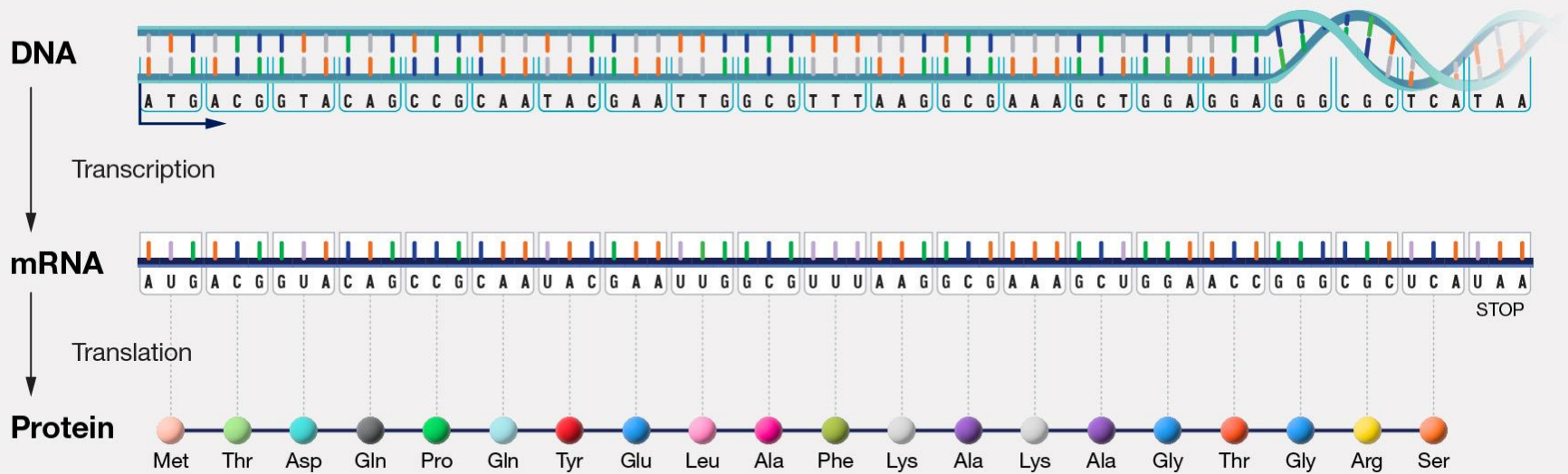
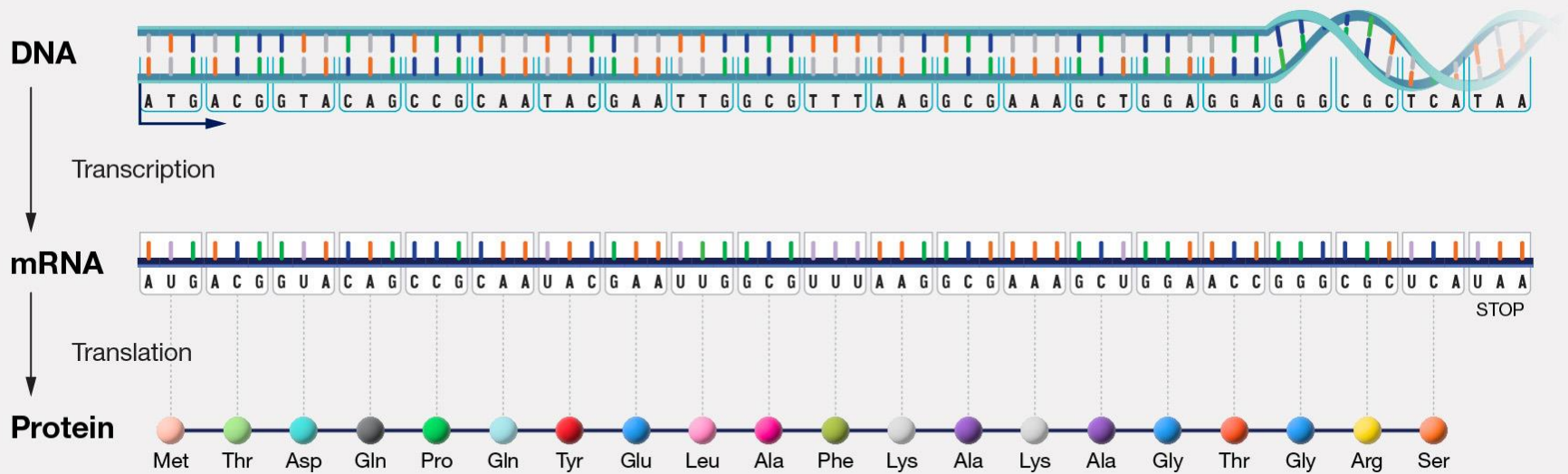


# Trascrizione e traduzione



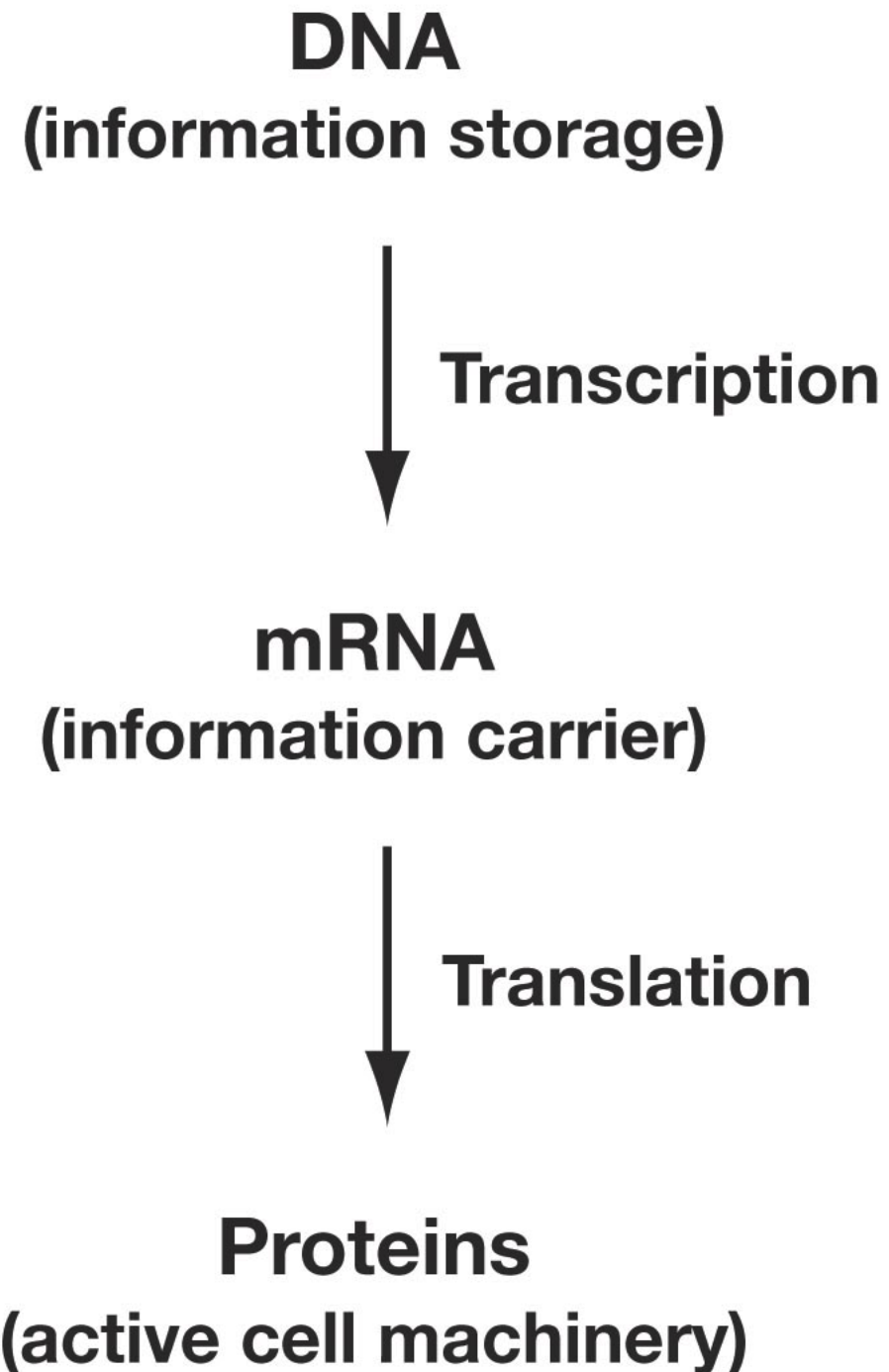
# Il dogma centrale della biologia cellulare

Francis Crick, 1958

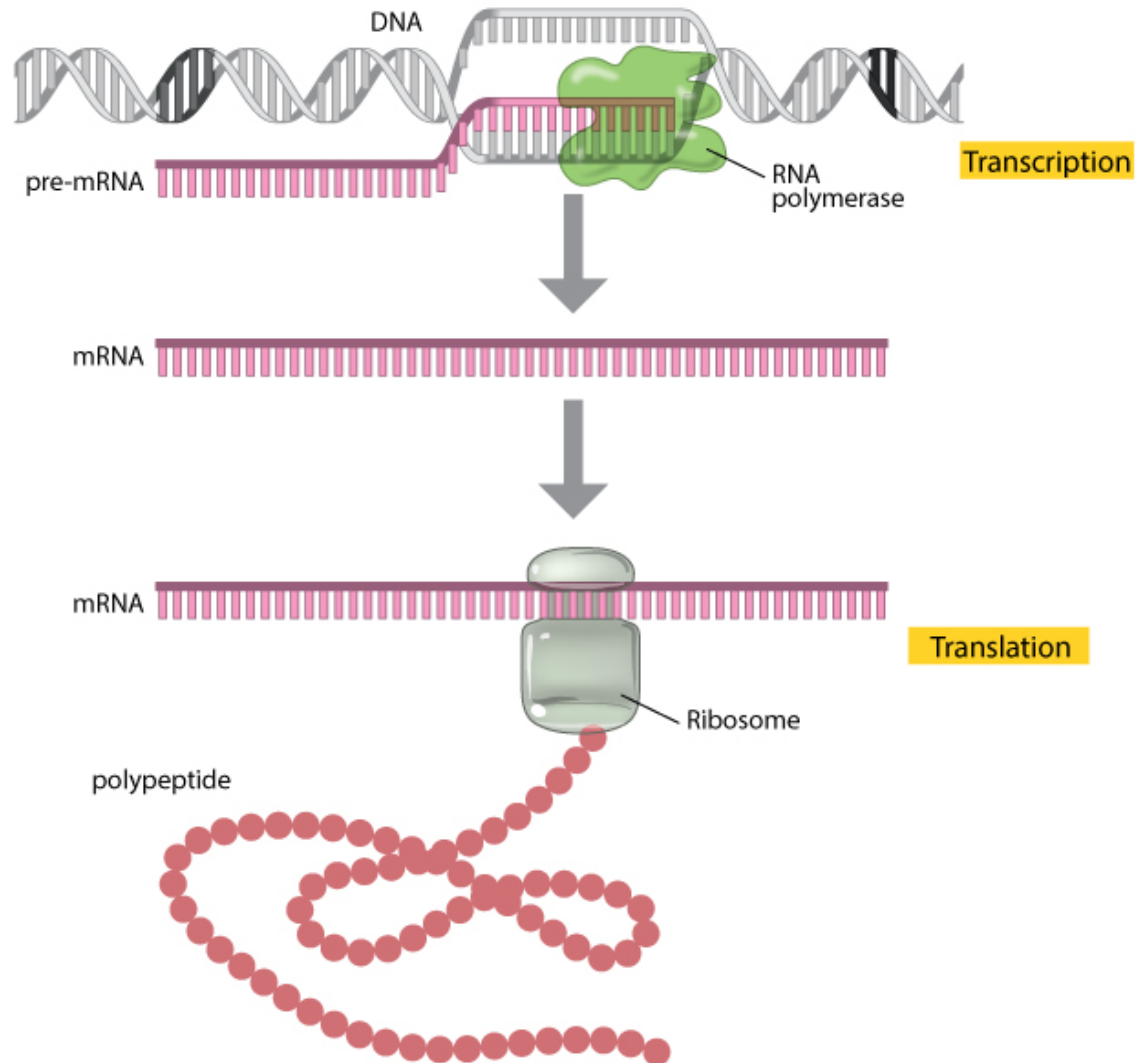


# Il dogma centrale

- Il DNA codifica per l'RNA
- L'RNA codifica per le proteine







































# Le tappe fondamentali sono universali



**Figure 1: A gene is expressed through the processes of transcription and translation.**

During transcription, the enzyme RNA polymerase (green) uses DNA as a template to produce a pre-mRNA transcript (pink). The pre-mRNA is processed to form a mature mRNA molecule that can be translated to build the protein molecule (polypeptide) encoded by the original gene.

# Il codice genetico

		Second nucleotide					
		U	C	A	G		
First nucleotide	U	UUU  UUC  UUA  UUG 	UCU UCC  UCA UCG	UAU  UAC  UAA <b>STOP</b> UAG <b>STOP</b>	UGU  UGC  UGA <b>STOP</b> UGG 	U C A G	
	C	CUU CUC  CUA CUG	CCU CCC  CCA CCG	CAU  CAC  CAA  CAG 	CGU CGC  CGA CGG	U C A G	
	A	AUU  AUC  AUA AUG 	ACU ACC  ACA ACG	AAU  AAC  AAA  AAG 	AGU  AGC  AGA  AGG 	U C A G	
	G	GUU GUC  GUA GUG	GCU GCC  GCA GCG	GAU  GAC  GAA  GAG 	GGU GGC  GGA GGG	U C A G	

# Trascrizione

## ➤ Trascrizione procariotica

➤ L'RNA polimerasi

➤ Origini e promoters procariotici

➤ Fasi della trascrizione

➤ Segnali di terminazione

➤ Prodotti della trascrizione

## ➤ Trascrizione eucariotica

➤ RNA polymerasi

➤ Promoters eucariotici

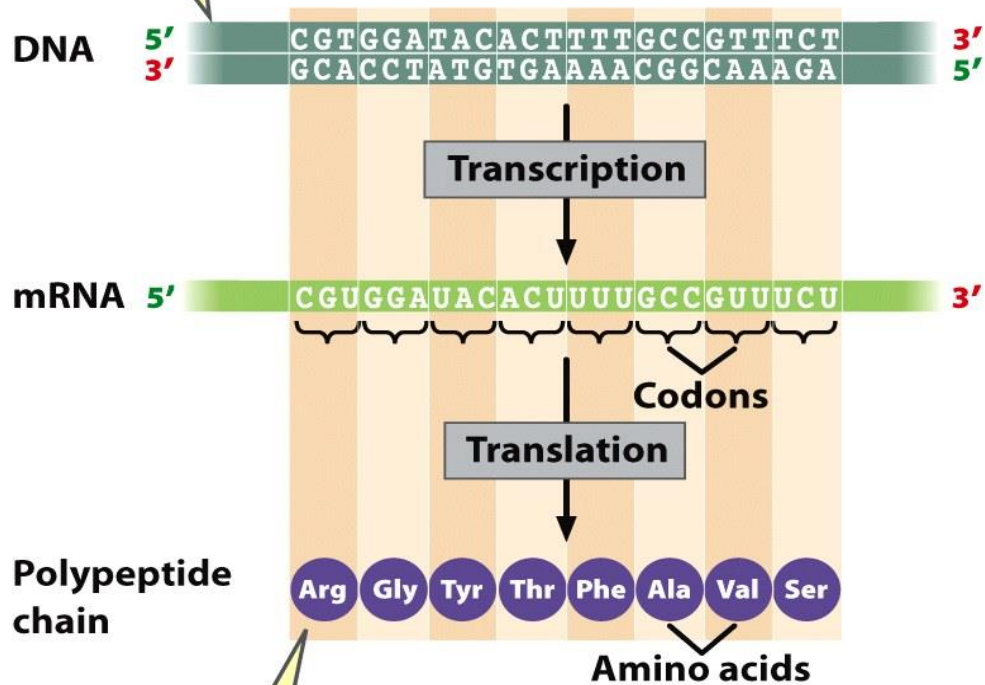
- **Enhancers**
- **Fasi della trascrizione eucariotica**
- **Terminazione**
- **RNA e modificazioni**

**Lo spliceosoma**

**Talassemia e RNA splicing delle globine**

**Modificazioni di mRNA, tRNA**

**1** A continuous sequence of nucleotides in the DNA...



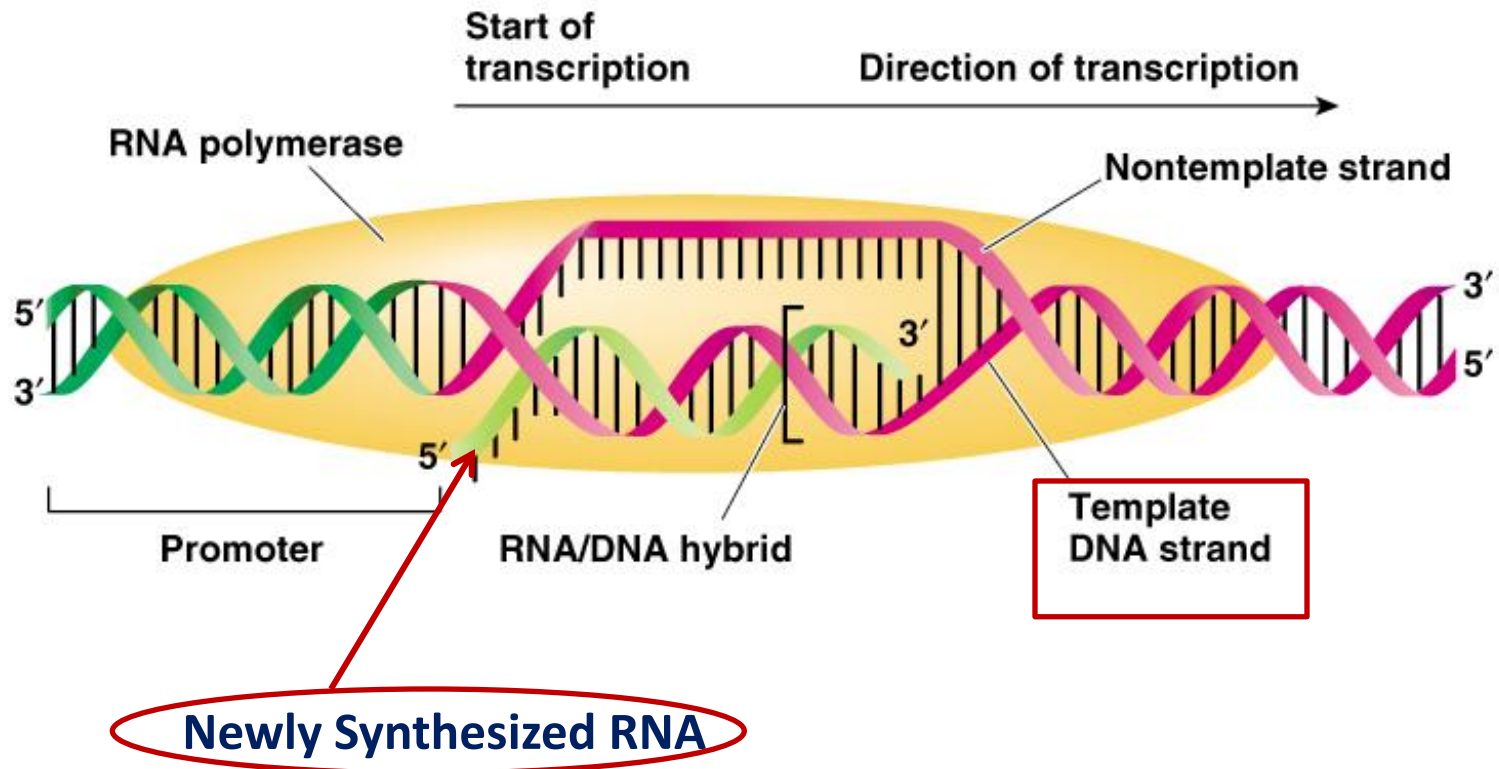
**2** ...codes for a continuous sequence of amino acids in the protein.

**Conclusion: With colinearity, the number of nucleotides in the gene is proportional to the number of amino acids in the protein.**

Figure 14.1  
*Genetics: A Conceptual Approach*, Fourth Edition  
© 2012 W. H. Freeman and Company



**Trascrizione: sintesi di una molecola di RNA a partire da uno dei due strand di DNA tramite RNA Polymerasi.**

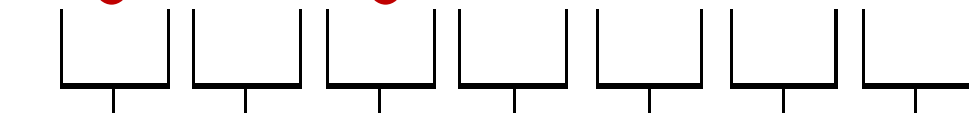


DNA coding strand 5' - A **T** GCCAG **T** AGGCCA C **TTG** TCA - 3'

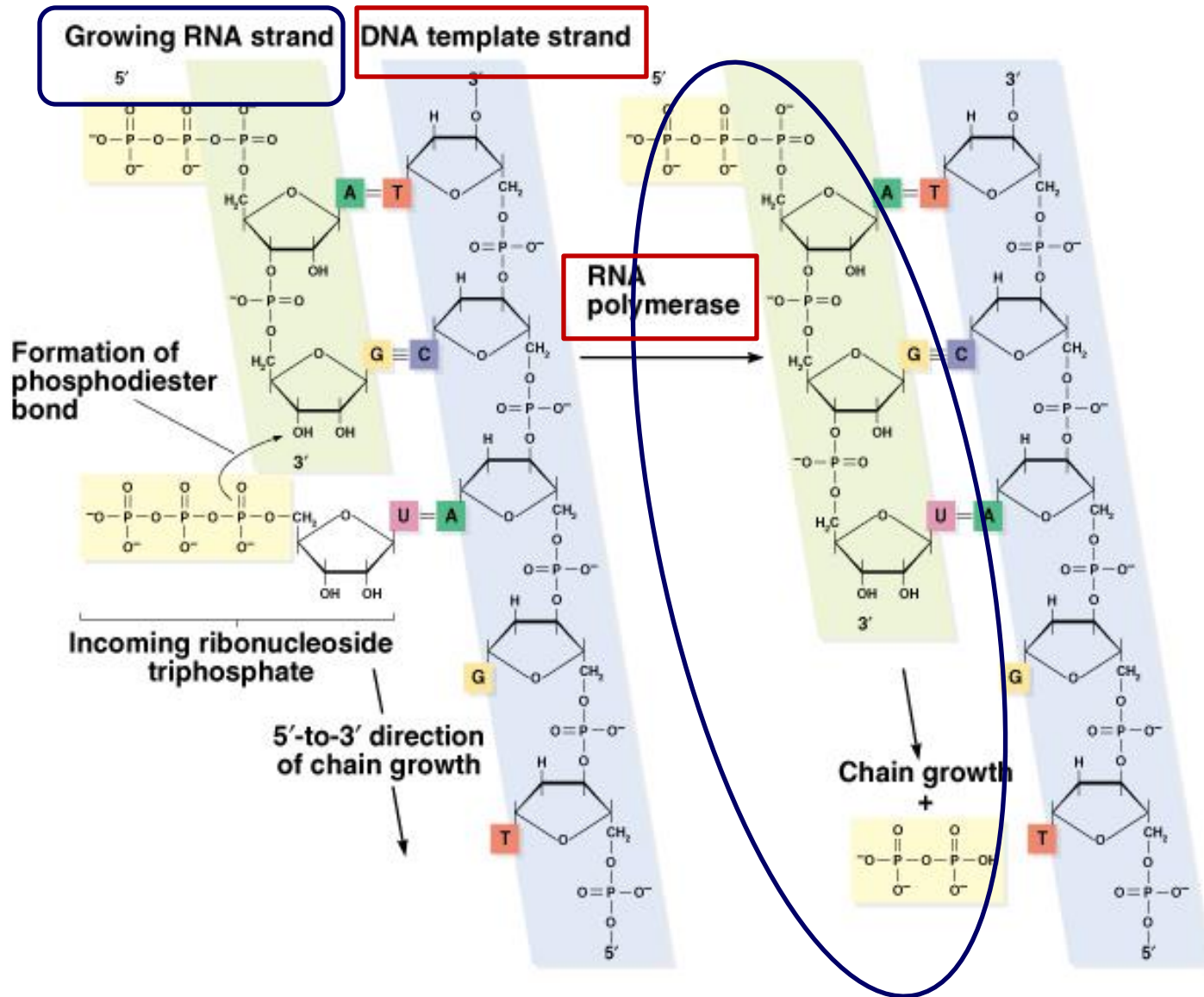
DNA template strand 3' - TACGGTCATCCGGTGAACAGT - 5'



mRNA 5' - A **U** G CCA G **U** A GGC CAC **UUG** **U** CA - 3'

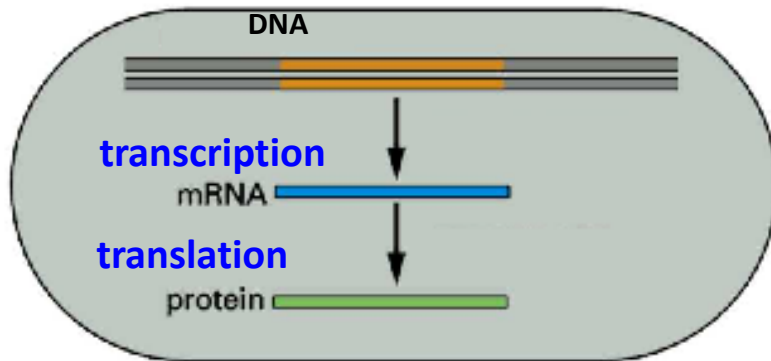


# L'enzima central e' l'RNA polimerasi

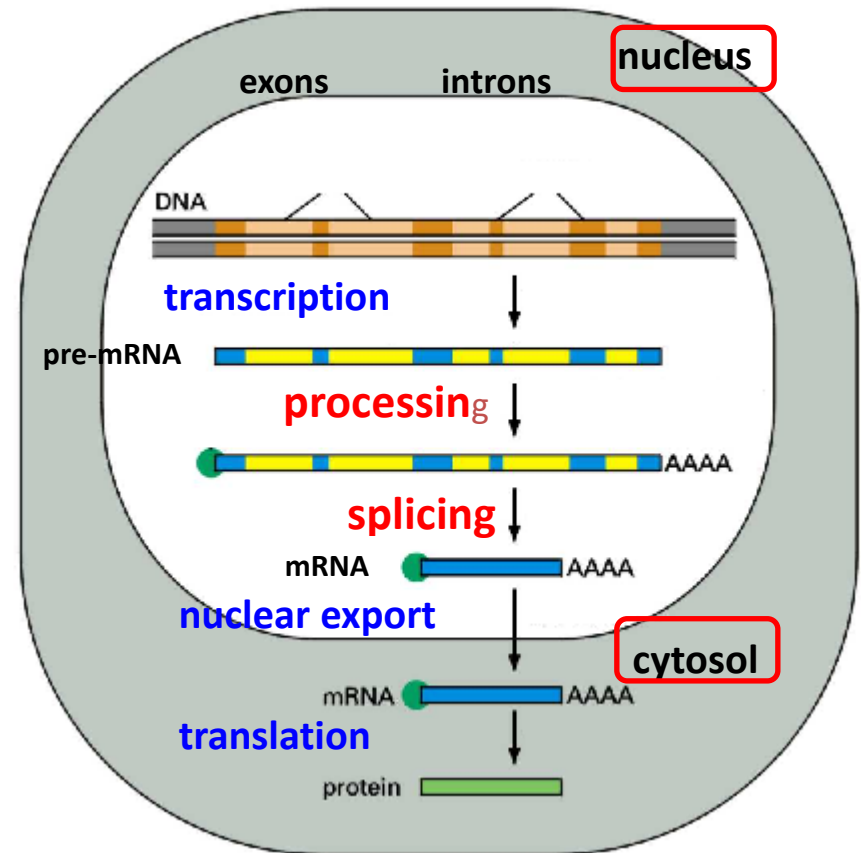


# Negli eucarioti trascrizione e traduzione sono separate nello spazio e nel tempo

## Procarioti



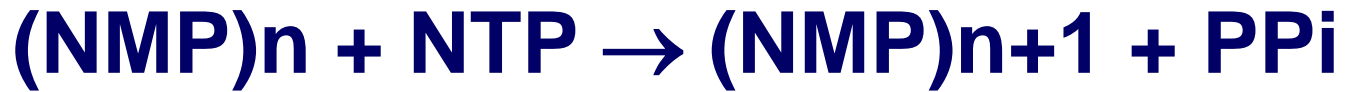
## Eucarioti



# RNA Polimerasi

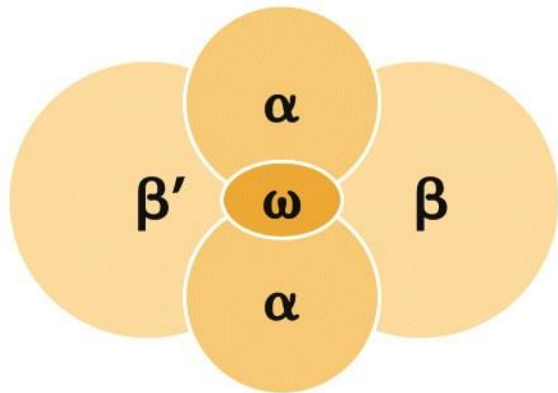
- L'RNA polimerasi e' DNA-  
dependente
  - L' RNA polymerasi procariotica e'  
una proteina con subunita'  
multiple di ~480kD.

# RNA Polymerasi

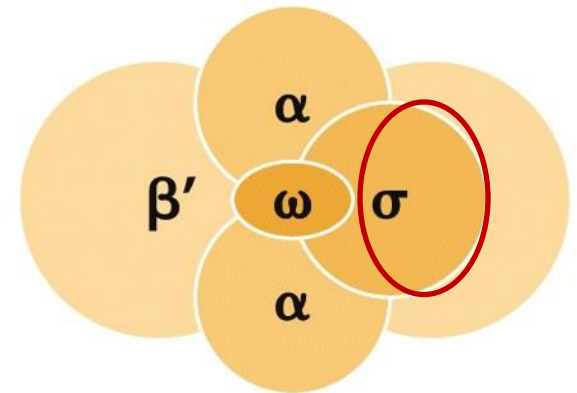
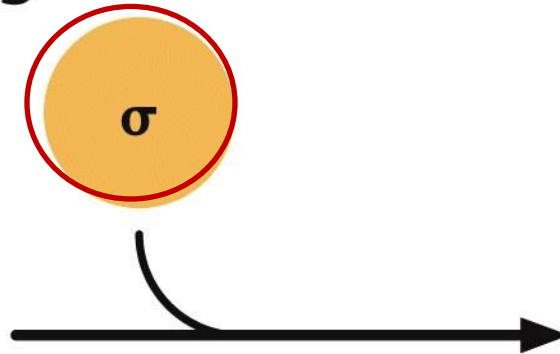


1. Non necessita' primers per la polimerizzazione.
2. Richiede DNA per l'attivita' ed e' piu attiva con un template di DNA a doppio filamento.
3. 5' → 3' synthesis.
4. Richiede  $Mg^{2+}$  per l'attivita'.
5. Manca attivita' di 3' → 5' esonucleasi e il tasso di errore e' di circa  $10^{-4} - 10^{-5}$ .

## Sigma factor



**Core RNA  
polymerase**



**RNA polymerase  
holoenzyme**

**Figure 13.9a**

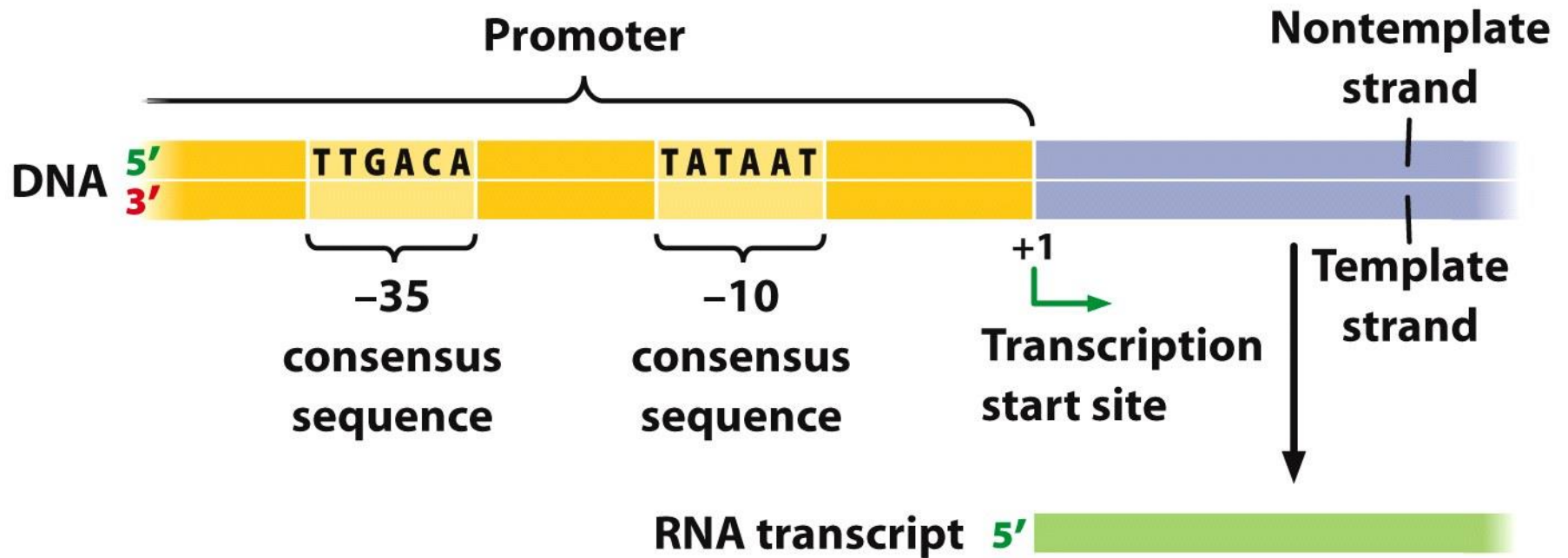
*Genetics: A Conceptual Approach*, Fourth Edition  
© 2012 W. H. Freeman and Company

# RNA Polymerasi di *E. Coli*

L'**oloenzima** della RNA-polymerasi in *E.coli* consiste di 5 differenti subunita':  $\alpha_2$   $\beta$   $\beta'$   $\omega$   $\sigma$

Subunit	MW	Function
$\alpha$	36.5 KD	Determines the DNA to be transcribed
$\beta$	150 KD	Catalyzes polymerization
$\beta'$	155.5 KD	Binds & open DNA template
$\sigma$	70 KD	Recognizes the promoter for synthesis initiation
$\omega$	11 KD	Subunit packing





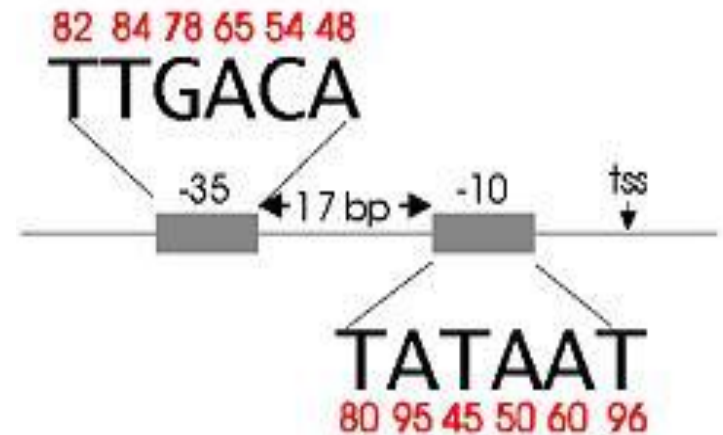
**Figure 13.11**  
*Genetics: A Conceptual Approach*, Fourth Edition  
 © 2012 W. H. Freeman and Company



# Struttura dei promoter batterici

## TATA-Box / Pribnow box

- Regione di 6 nucleotides ( 5'- **TATAAT**-3') centrata circa 8-10 nucleotide alla sinistra del sito di inizio della trascrizione.



## Sequenza -35bp

- Una seconda sequenza di consenso ( 5'- **TTGACA**-3'), centrata circa 35basi prima

# Fasi

---

- 1. Promoter binding**
- 2. Apertura del DNA**
- 3. Inizio della catena di RNA**
- 4. Elongazione**
- 5. Terminazione**

# Trascrizione nei procarioti

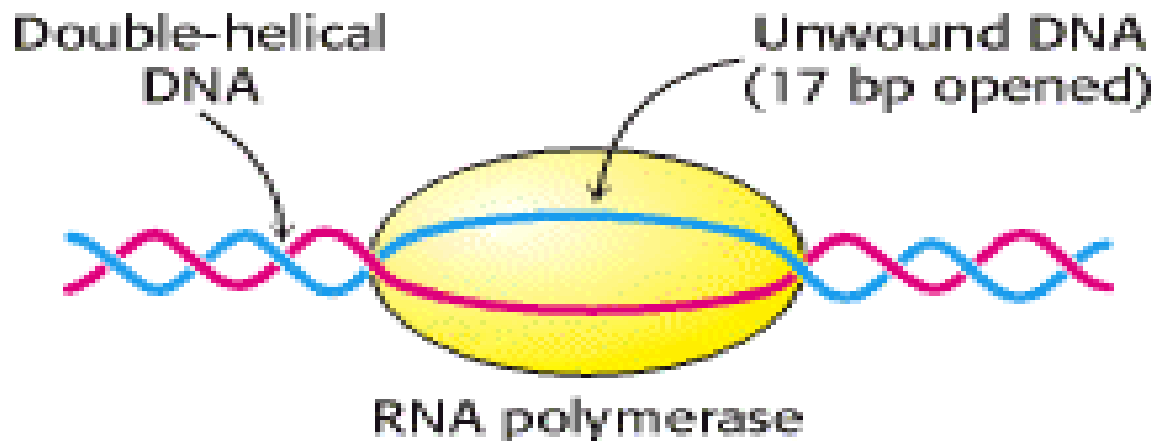
- **Inizio**: L'RNA-polimerasi riconosce il **promoter** e l'inizio della trascrizione.
- **Elongazione**: il filamento di RNA cresce.
- **Terminazione**: L'RNA-polymerasi ferma la sintesi e l' **RNA nascente** si separa dal template di DNA.

# **Inizio della trascrizione ai promoter**

**Il processo di elongazione e' molto simile/conservato tra procarioti ed eucarioti ma inizio e terminazione differiscono**

# Inizio

- L'RNA-polimerasi riconosce la regione **TTGACA** (sequenza -35), e scivola fino alla regione **TATAAT** (sequenza -10), e poi **apre** il DNA a doppia elica (duplex).
- La regione aperta e' di circa **17 bp**.



- Il primo nucleotide del trascritto (RNA) e' sempre una **purina trifosfato**. GTP e' piu' comune di ATP.
- La struttura **pppGpN-OH** rimane sul trascritto finche' la sintesi dell'RNA e' completa.
- Le tre molecole formano il **complesso di inizio della trascrizione**.



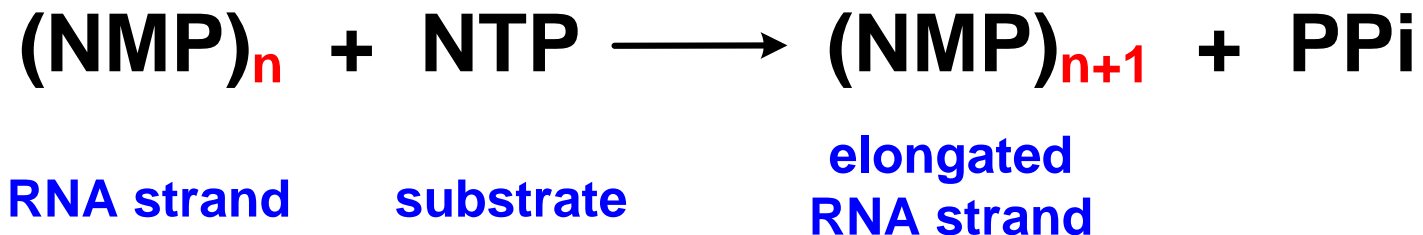
**RNA-pol ( $\alpha_2\beta\beta'\sigma$ ) - DNA - pppGpN- OH 3'**



- **Nessun primer e' necessario per la sintesi dell' RNA.**
- **La subunita'  $\sigma$  si stacca dalla RNA-polymerasi una volta che il primo legame 3',5'-phosphodiesteri si forma.**
- **Il core enzyme si muove lungo il DNA entrando nella fase di elongazione (o di allungamento).**

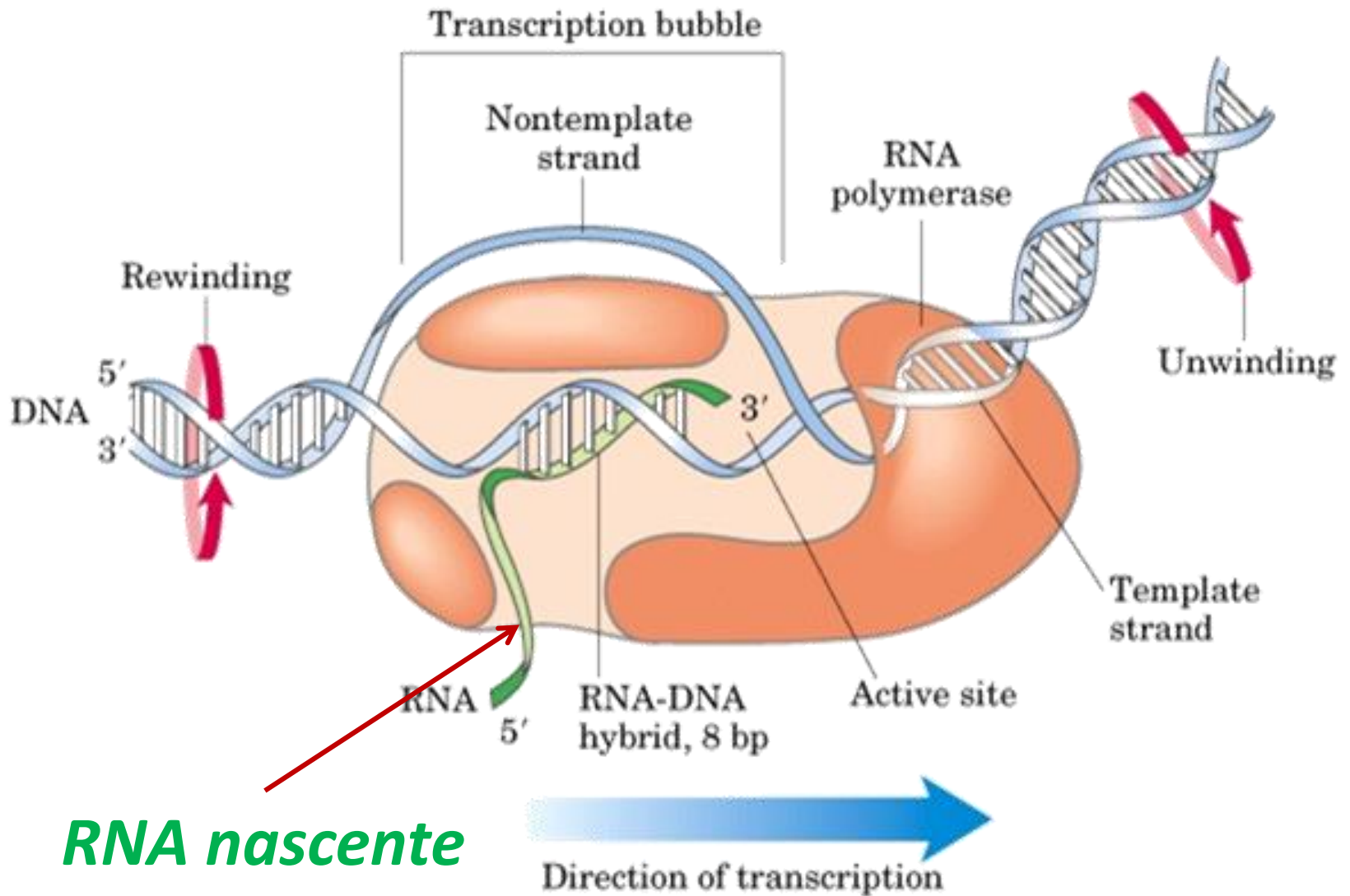
# Elongazione

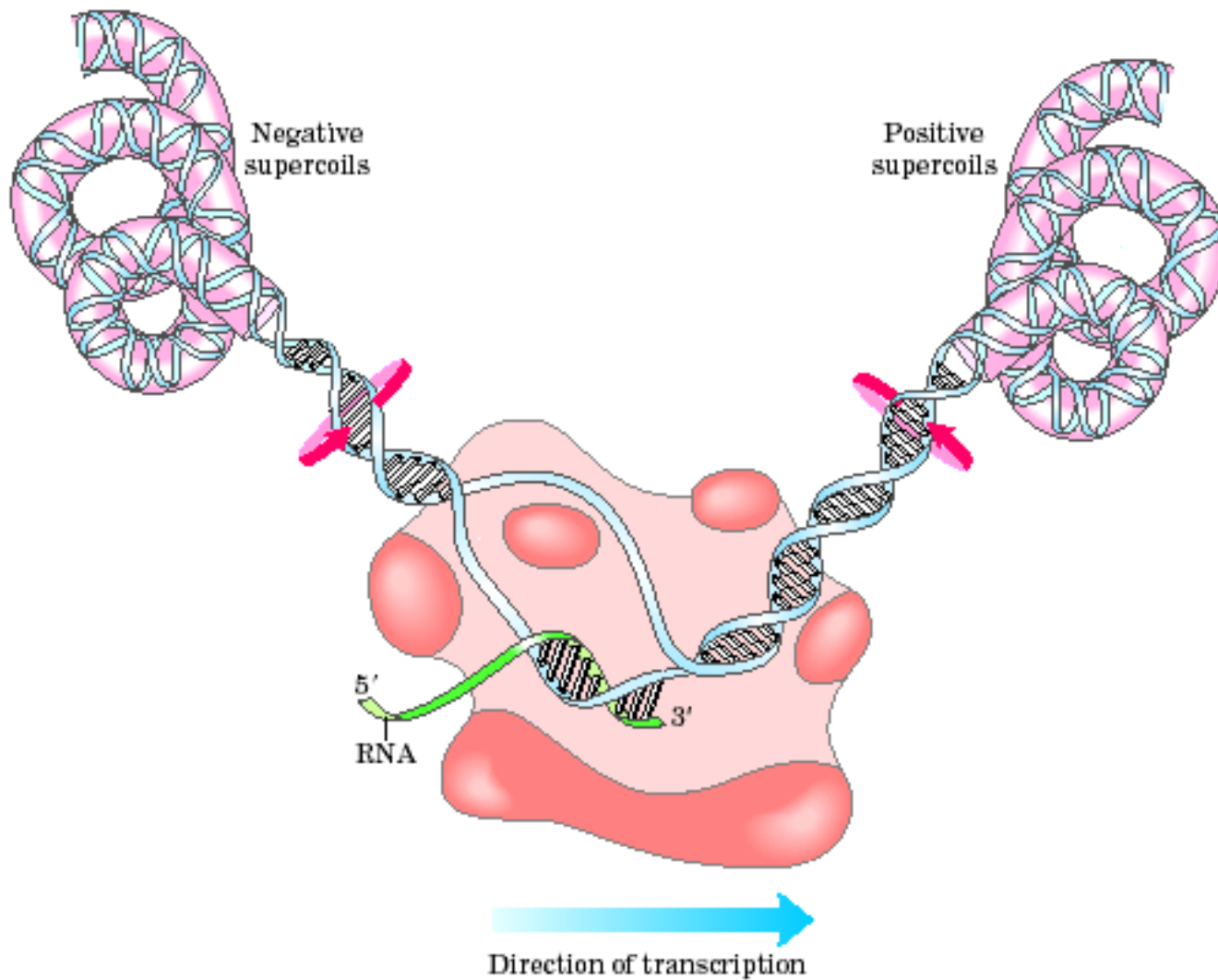
- Il rilascio della subunita'  $\sigma$  causa un cambio conformazionale del core enzyme. Il **core enzyme scivola** sul DNA verso il 3' terminale.
- **NTPs** liberi sono aggiunti sequenzialmente al **3' -OH** del filament di **RNA nascente**.



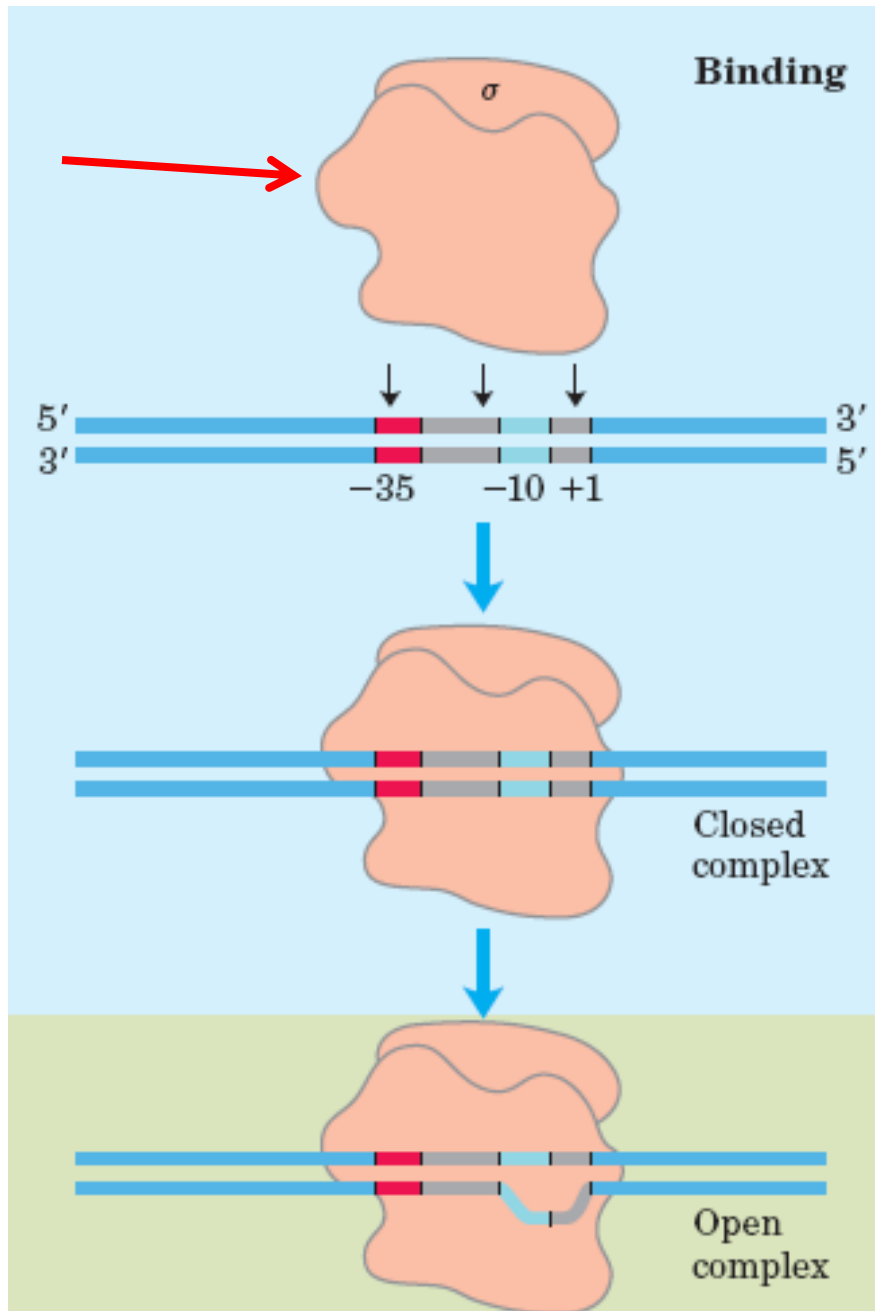
- **L'RNA-polymerasi, il segment di DNA di ~40nt e il RNA nascente formano un complesso chiamato bolla trascrizionale.**
- **Il segmento **3'** dell' RNA nascente ibridizza col DNA, e il termine **'5'** si estende fuori dalla bolla trascrizionale mentre la sintesi continua.**

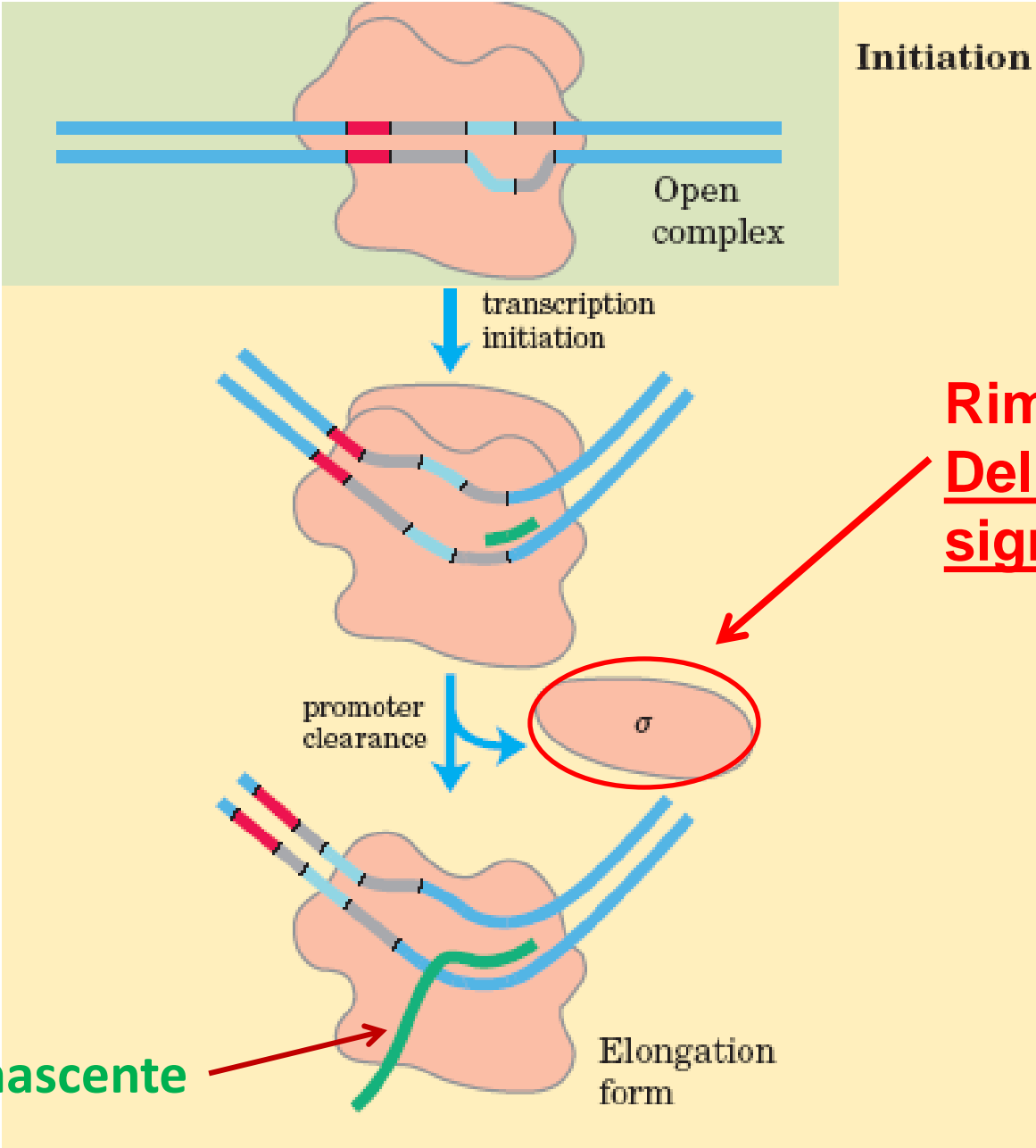
# La bolla di trascrizione





# RNA Polimerasi





**Initiation**

Open complex

transcription initiation

**Rimozione Della subunita' sigma**

promoter clearance

$\sigma$

**RNA nascente**

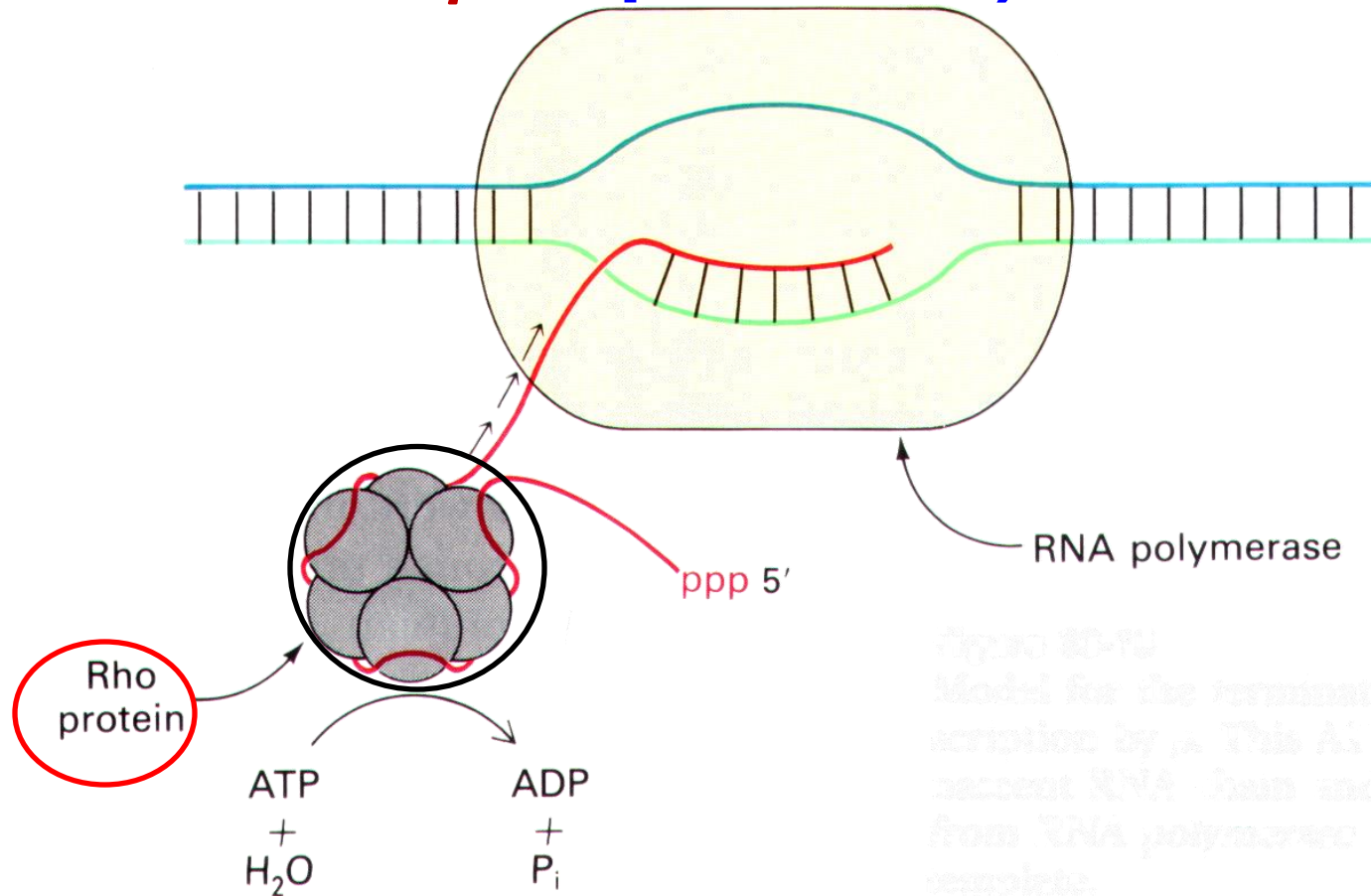
Elongation form

# Terminazione

- L' **RNA Polymerasi** si ferma sul DNA. Il trascritto si stacca dal complesso di trascrizione.
- La terminazione occorre in 2 modi:  
 **$\rho$  -dipendente**   o    **$\rho$  -indipendente.**



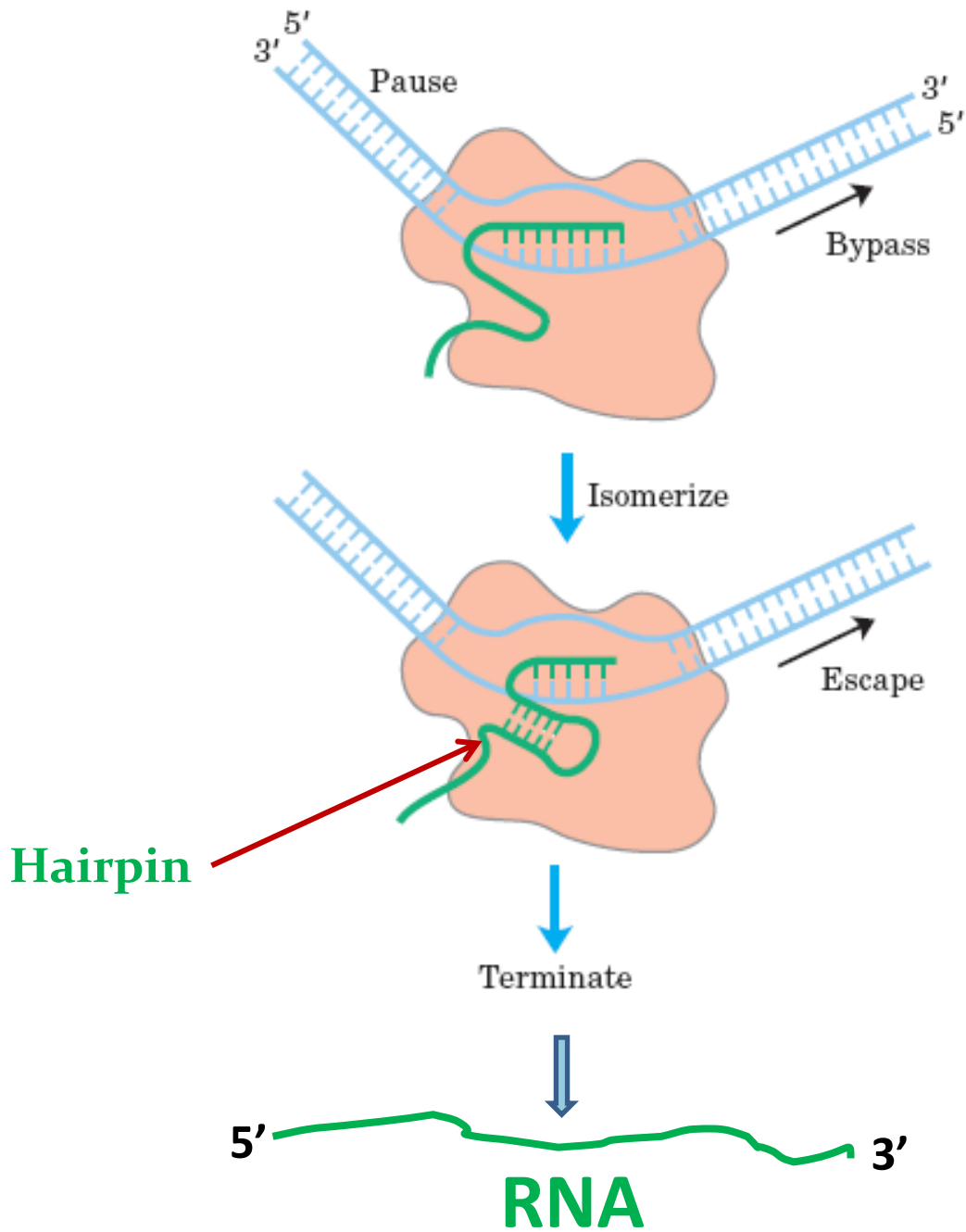
# Terminazione mediate da fattore $\rho$ ( $\rho$ -dipendente)



Il fattore  $\rho$ , un esamero, e' una **ATPasi** e un'**elicasi**.

# Terminazione $\rho$ -independente

- Il **segnale di terminazione** e' una sequenza di 30-40 nucleotidi sul trascritto di RNA, che consiste di **molte GC** seguite da una serie di **U**.
- La specificita' della sequenza di questo RNA nascente fa si che si formino delle **strutture stem-loop** per terminare la trascrizione.



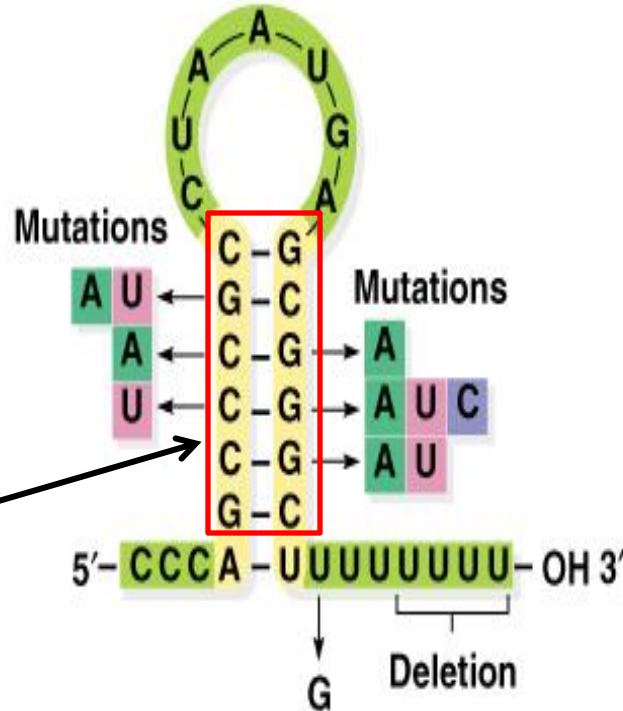
# Terminazione $\rho$ -independente

← Two-fold symmetry →

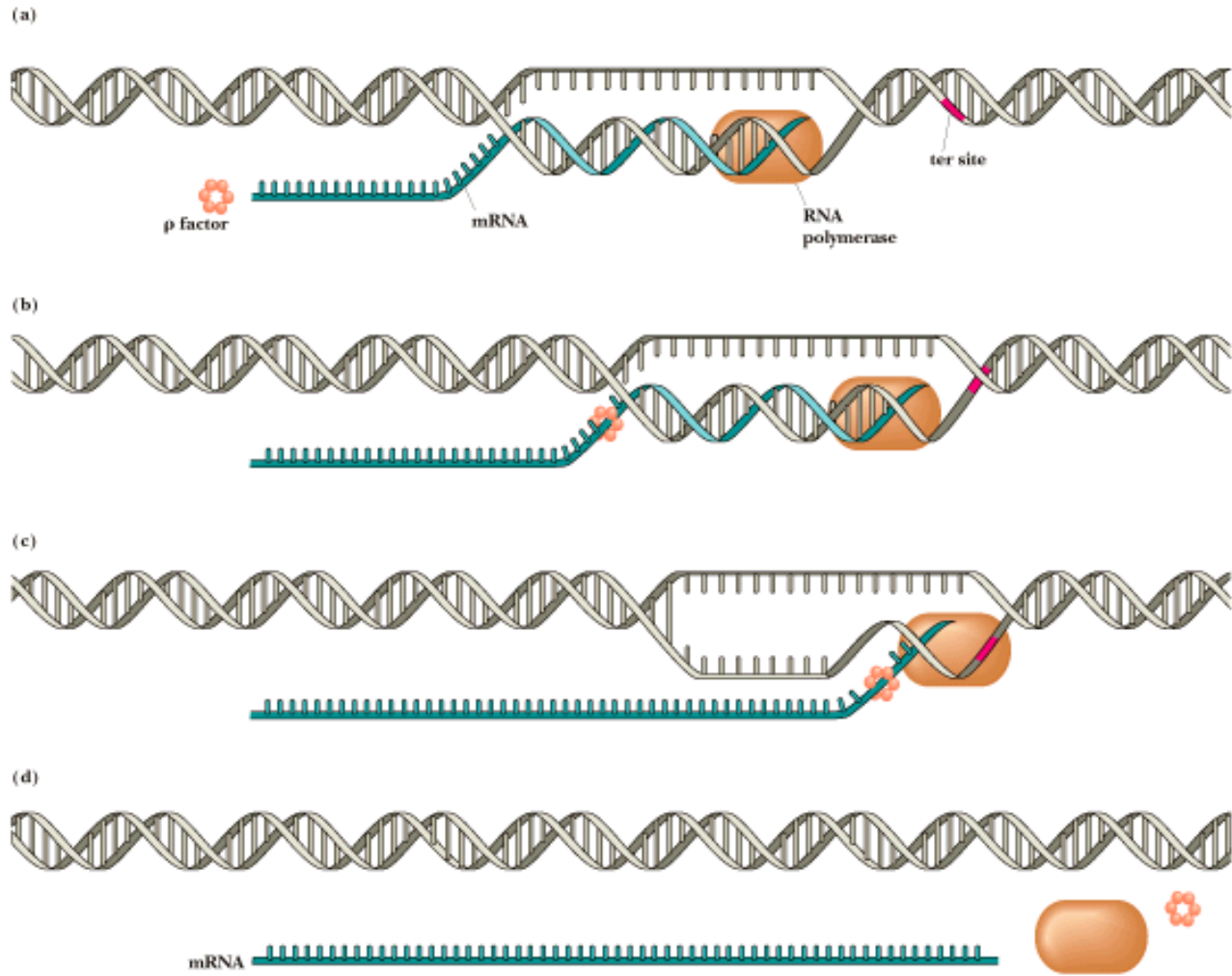
Template (DNA) 5' CCCAGCCCGCCTAATGAGCGGGCTTTTTTTGAACAAA 3'  
3' GGGTCGGGCGGATTACTCGCCCGA AAAAAA ACTTGTTTT 5'

Transcript (RNA) 5' CCCAGCCCGCCUAAUGAGCGGGCUUUUUUUU-OH 3'

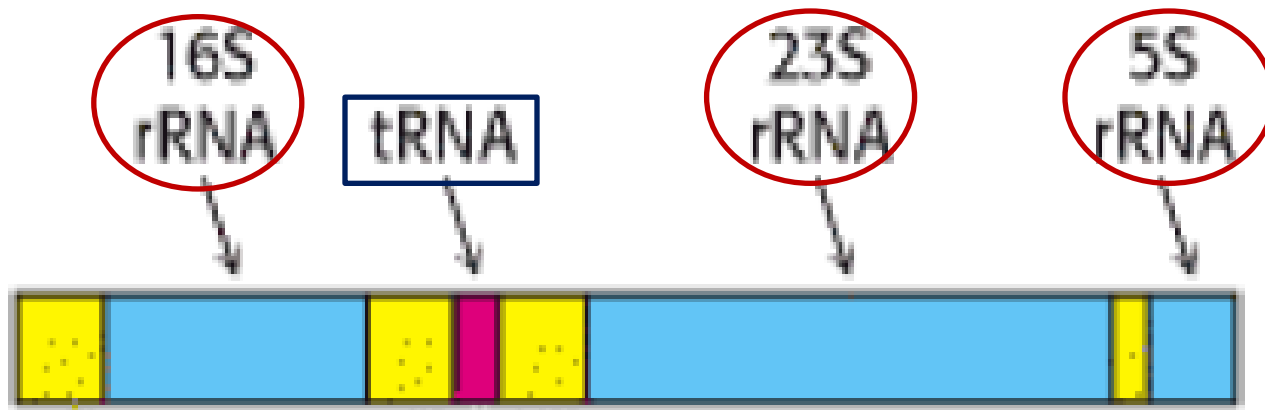
Transcript folded to form termination hairpin



**Hairpin**

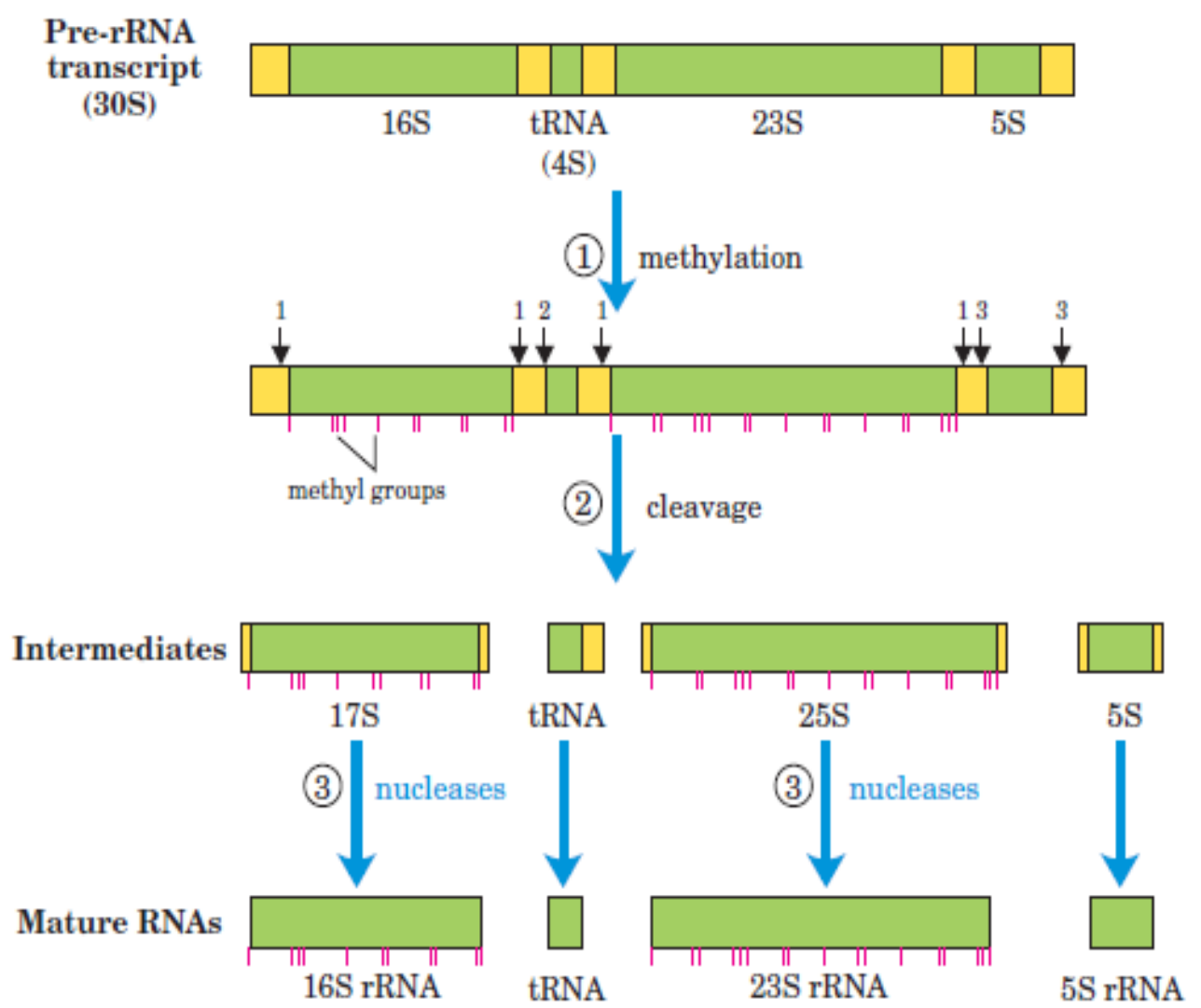


# Sintesi dell' rRNA e dei tRNA



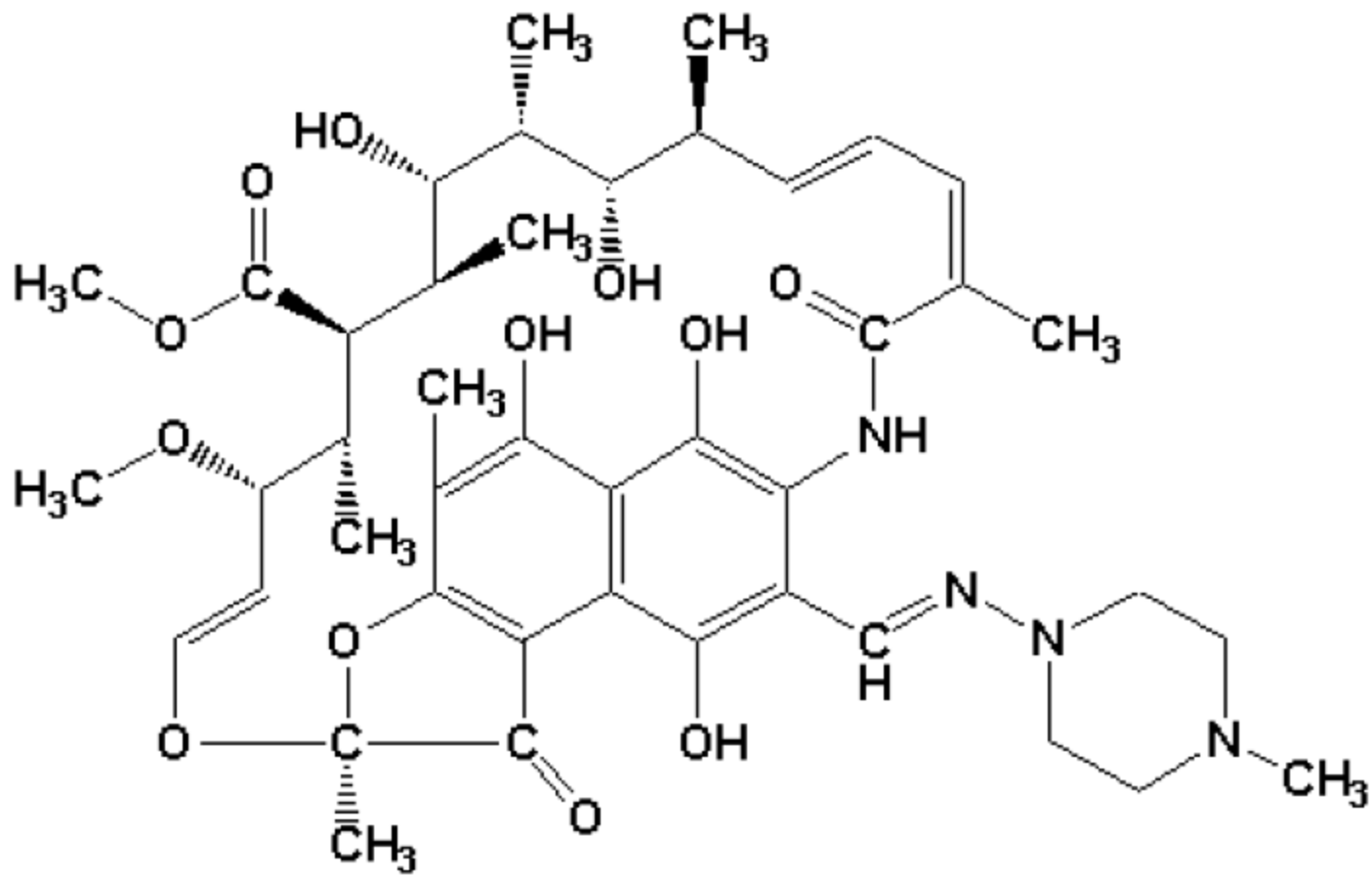
**Cleavage di un trascritto policistronico produce molecole di 5S, 16S, e 23S rRNA e un tRNA molecole.**

**Delle regioni “Spacer” sono mostrate in giallo.**



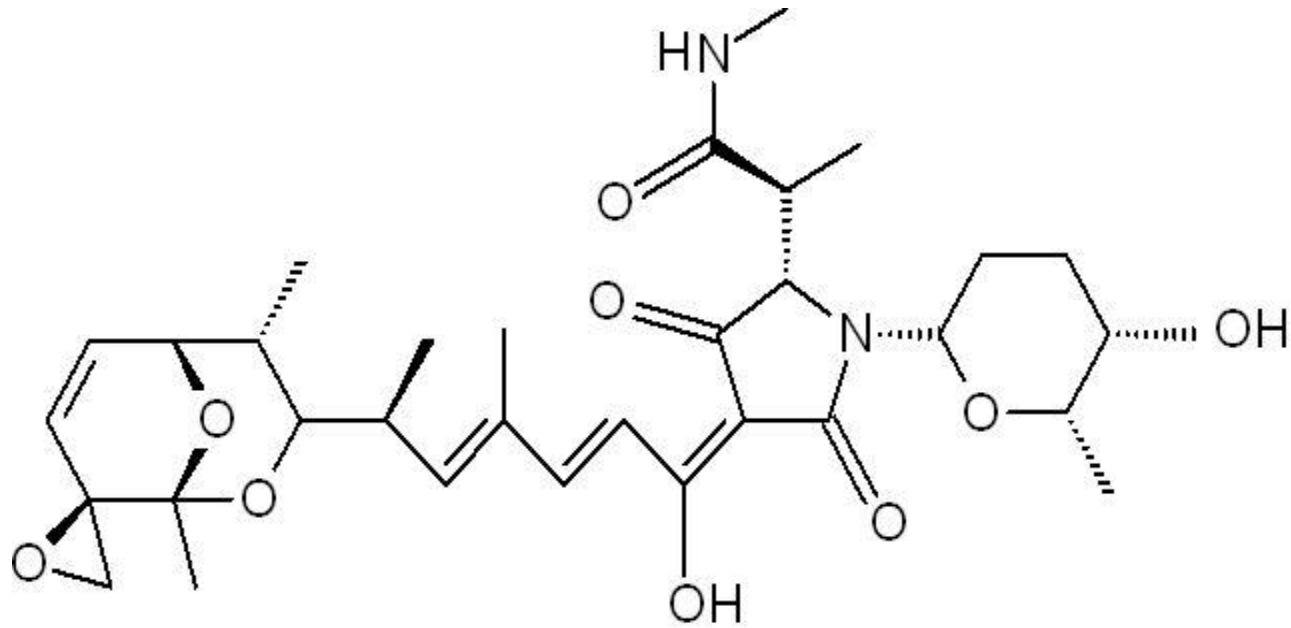
# **Inibitori della trascrizione**





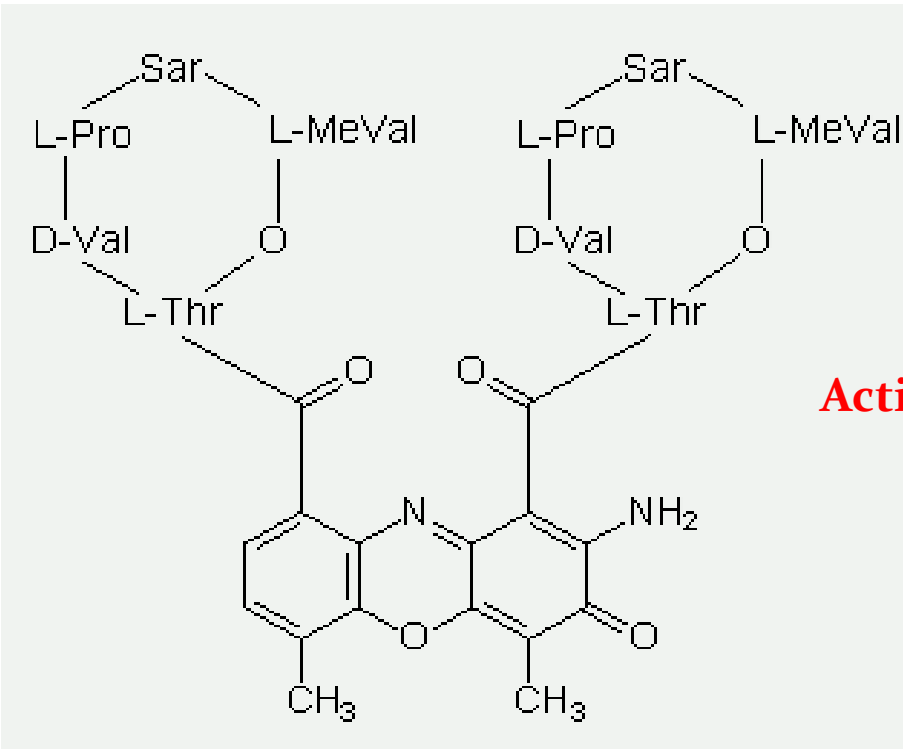
**Rifampicin**

Lega la **subunita'  $\beta$**  della **RNA Polymerasi** e blocca l' **inizio della trascrizione**.



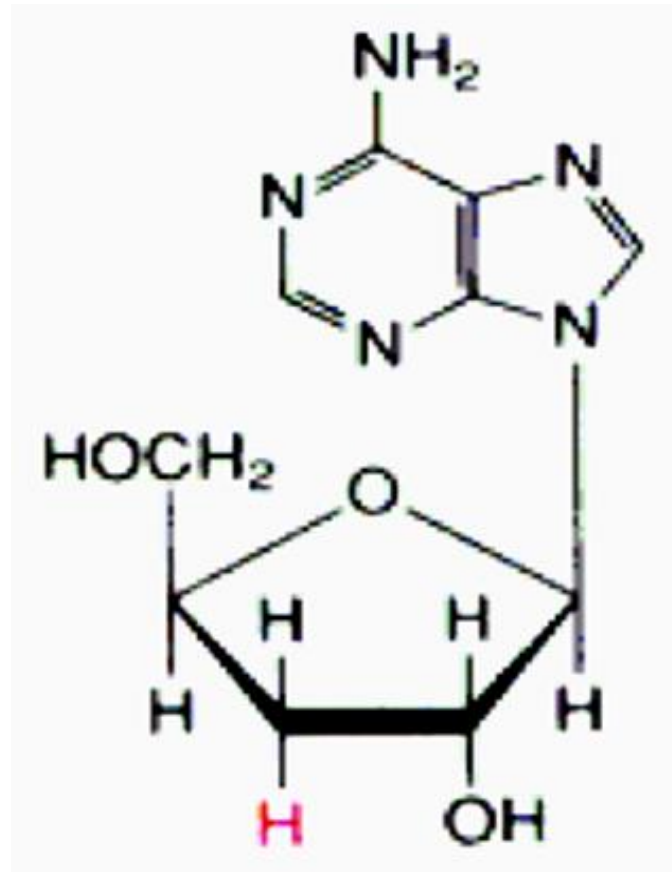
STREPTOLYDIGIN

Lega la **subunita'  $\beta$**  della **RNA Polymerasi** e blocca l' **elongazione della trascrizione.**



**Actinomycin D**

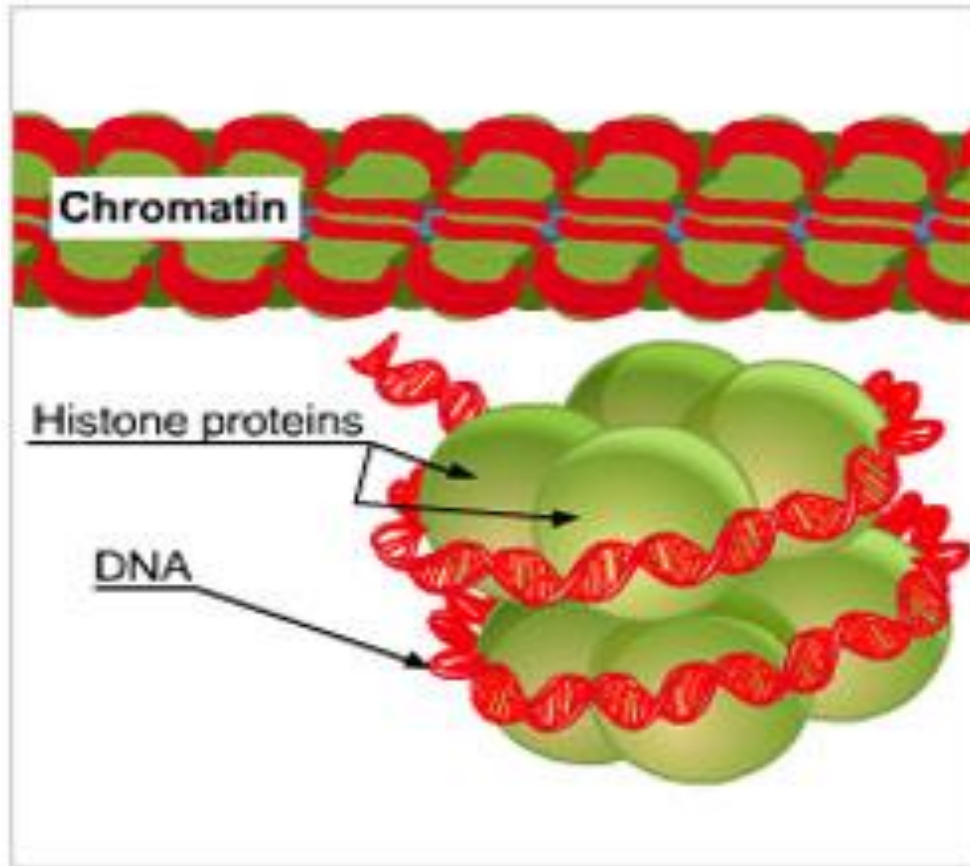
The tricyclic ring system (phenoxazone) of **Actinomycin D** intercalates between adjacent **G-C base pairs**, and the cyclic polypeptide arms fill the nearby narrow groove and inhibits **Elongation** phase of Transcription.

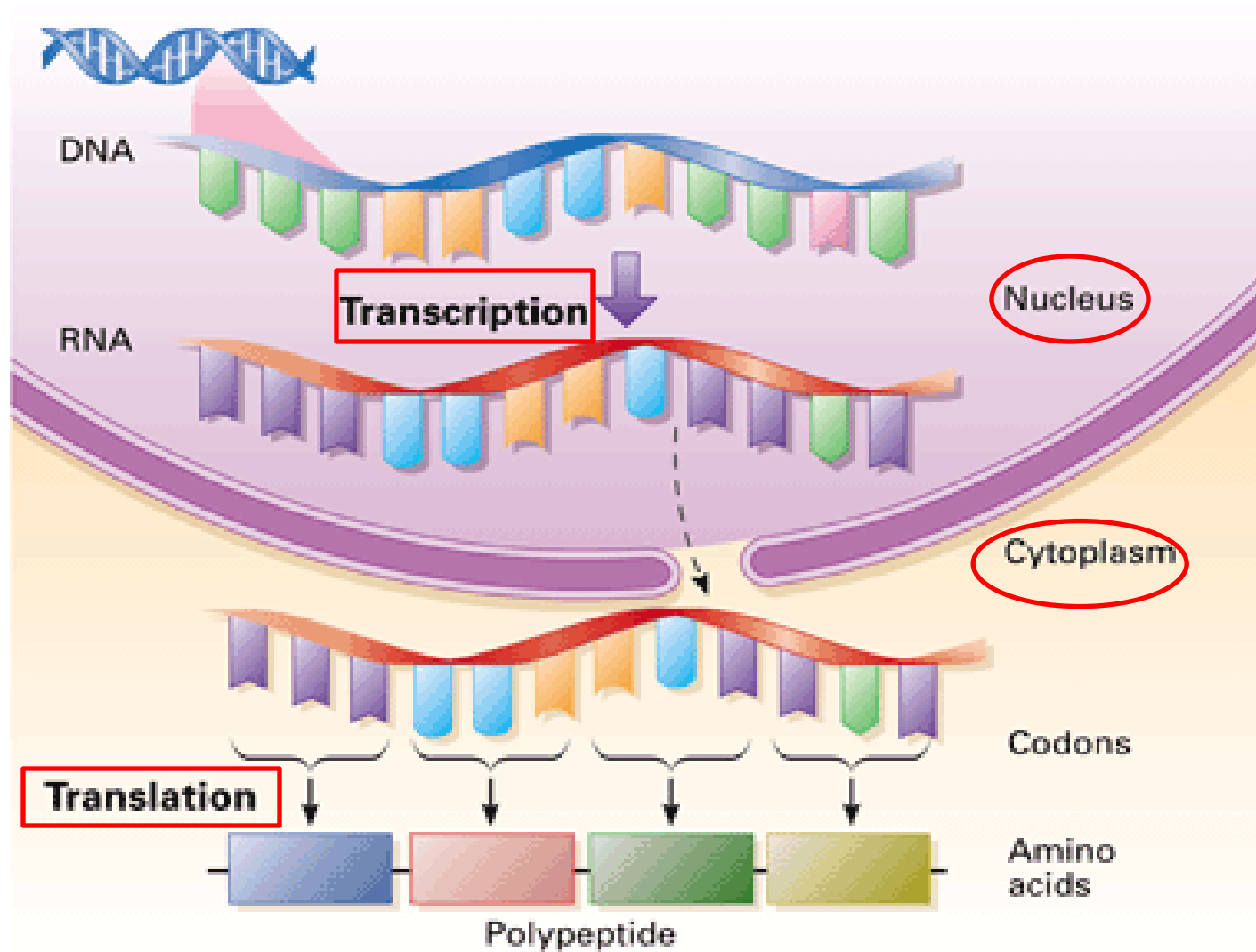


Cordycepin (3-deoxy Adenosine)

Inibisce l' **elongazione**

# Trascrizione eucariotica





# Eukaryotic RNA polymerases

## RNA Polymerase-I: Transcribes / Synthesizes

- 28s rRNA
- 18s rRNA
- 5.8s rRNA

## RNA Polymerase-II: Transcribes

- m-RNA
- Some sn-RNA

## RNA Polymerase-III: Transcribes

- t-RNA
- 5s rRNA
- Some sn-RNA

# RNA POLYMERASE-II

- **RNA polymerase II** is central to eukaryotic gene expression and has been studied extensively.
- **RNA polymerase II** is a multi subunit enzyme with 12 subunits.
- **RNA polymerase II** requires an array of other proteins, called **transcription factors (TF II)** in order to form the active transcription complex.



# Eukaryotic RNA polymerases

RNAP I (14 subunits)	RNAP II (12 subunits)	RNAP III (15 subunits)
Rpa1 (A190)	Rbp1 (B220)	Rpc1 (C160)
Rpa2 (A135)	Rbp2 (B150)	Rpc2 (C128)
Rpc5 (AC40)	Rpb3 (B44.5)	Rpc5 (AC40)
Rpc9 (AC19)	Rpb11 (B13.6)	Rpc9 (AC19)
Rbp6 (ABC23)	Rbp6 (ABC23)	Rpb6 (ABC23)
Rpb5 (ABC27)	Rpb5 (ABC27)	Rpb5 (ABC27)
Rpb8 (ABC14.4)	Rpb8 (ABC14.4)	Rpb8 (ABC14.4)
Rbp10 (ABC10 $\beta$ )	Rpb10 (ABC10 $\beta$ )	Rpb10 (ABC10 $\beta$ )
Rbp12 (ABC10 $\alpha$ )	Rpb12 (ABC10 $\alpha$ )	Rpb12 (ABC10 $\alpha$ )
Rpa9 (A12.2)	Rpb9 (B12.6)	Rpc12 (C11)
Rpa8 (A14) <sup>c</sup>	Rpb4 (B32)	—
Rpa4 (A43) <sup>c</sup>	Rpb7 (B16)	Rpc11 (C25)
+2 others <sup>d</sup>		+4 others <sup>d</sup>



---

Type Location

---

Cellular transcripts

Effects of  $\alpha$ -amanitin

---

I Nucleolus

18S, 5.8S, and 28S rRNA

Insensitive

II Nucleoplasm

mRNA precursors and snRNA

Strongly inhibited

III Nucleoplasm

tRNA and 5S rRNA

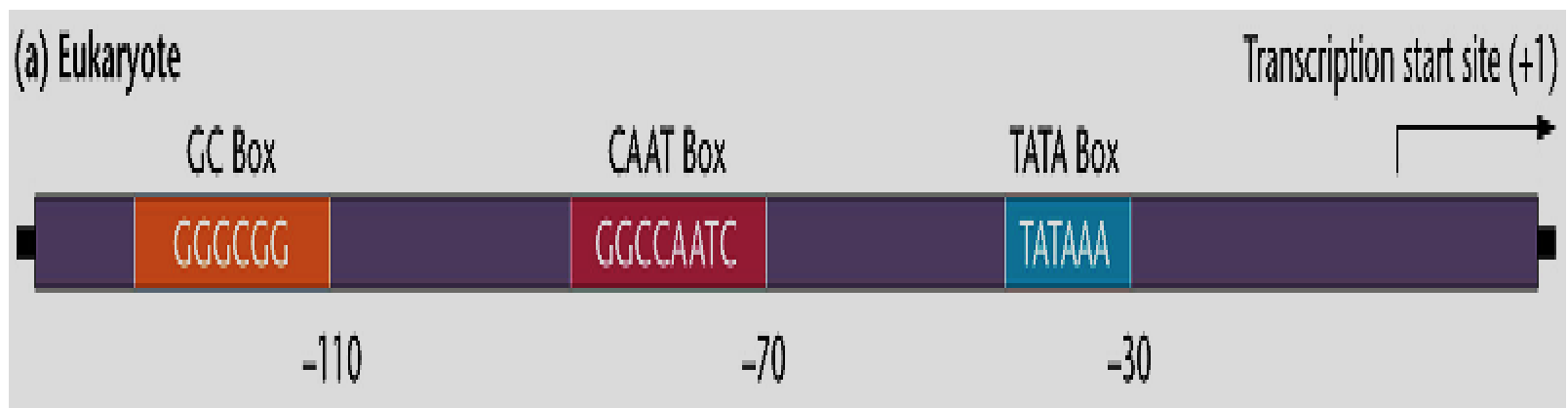
Inhibited by high concentrations

---

# Eukaryotic Transcription

## Promoters

- ✓ Much more complex than those found in bacteria.
- ✓ These are **consensus sequences** located at the upstream regions of Coding strand.
- ✓ Mutation of this region usually significantly **lowers the rate of transcription.**



### 1) TATA box ( Hogness Box)

Very similar to the prokaryotic TATA box, except the sequence is slightly different (**TATAAA**) and it is located in between **-25 to -30**.

### 2) CAAT box

Located in between **-70 to -80**.  
Always contains **CCAAT**.

### 3) GC box

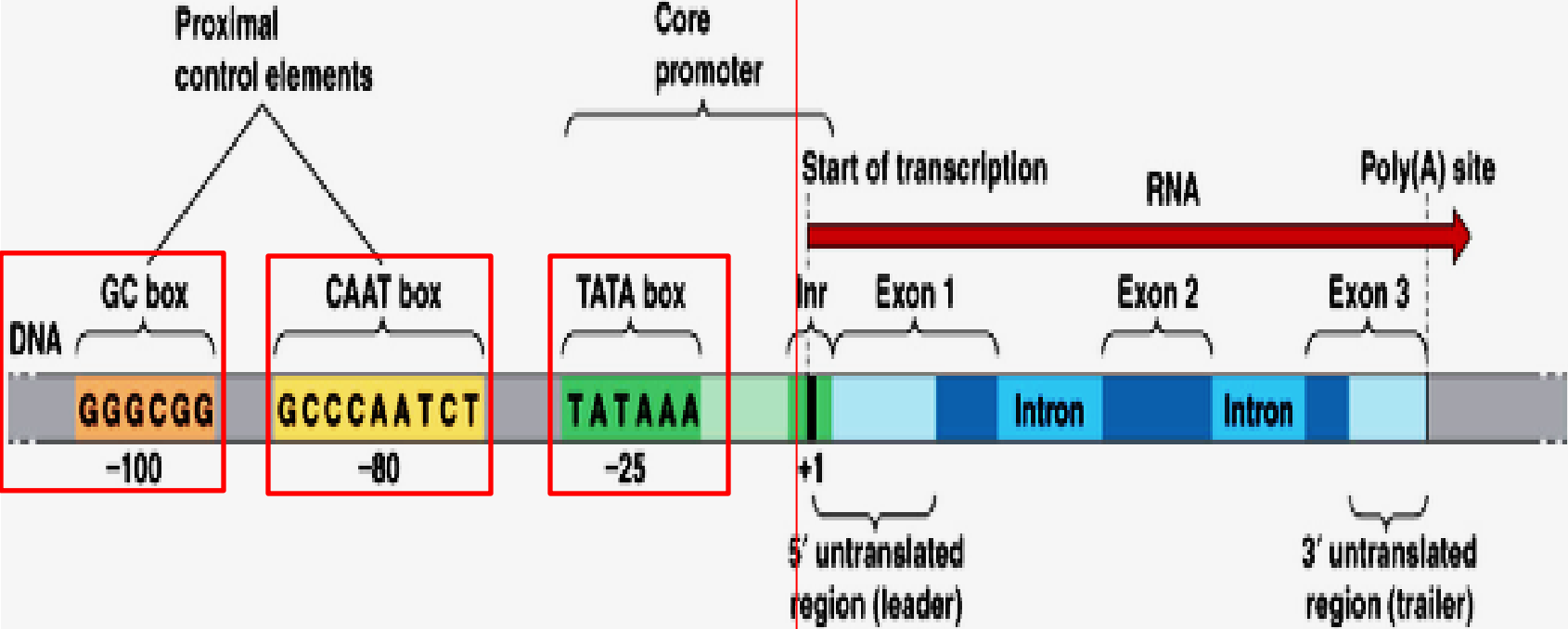
Usually has the sequence **GGGCGG** and is typically found at **-110**.

## **ENHANCERS :**

- **Enhancers elements are the sequences located in a variety of regions of a gene both upstream and downstream of the transcription start site and even within the transcribed portions of some genes.**
- **Enhancers increases the transcription rate by several folds.**

← **UPSTREAM**

**DOWNSTREAM** →



# Transcription factors

- RNA-pol II does **not** bind to the promoter sequences **directly**.
- RNA-pol II associates with **six** transcription factors.
- **TFII A, TFII B, TFII D, TFII E, TFII F and TFII H**

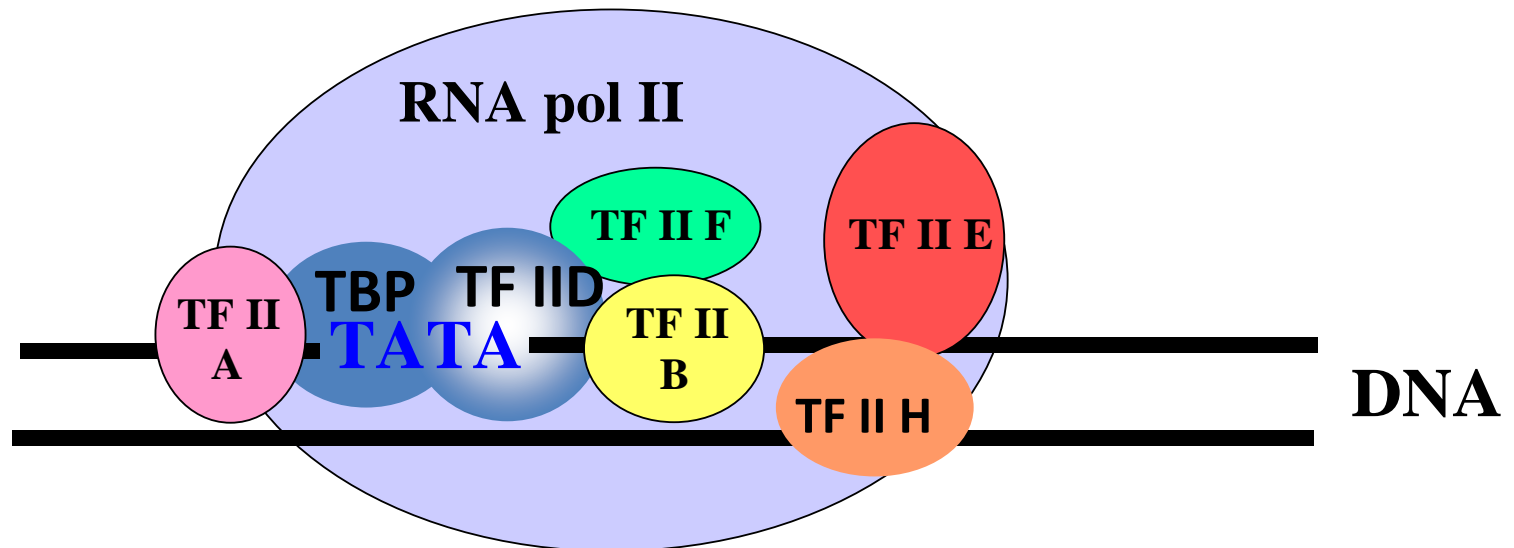


# Proteins Required for Initiation of Transcription at the RNA Polymerase II (Pol II)

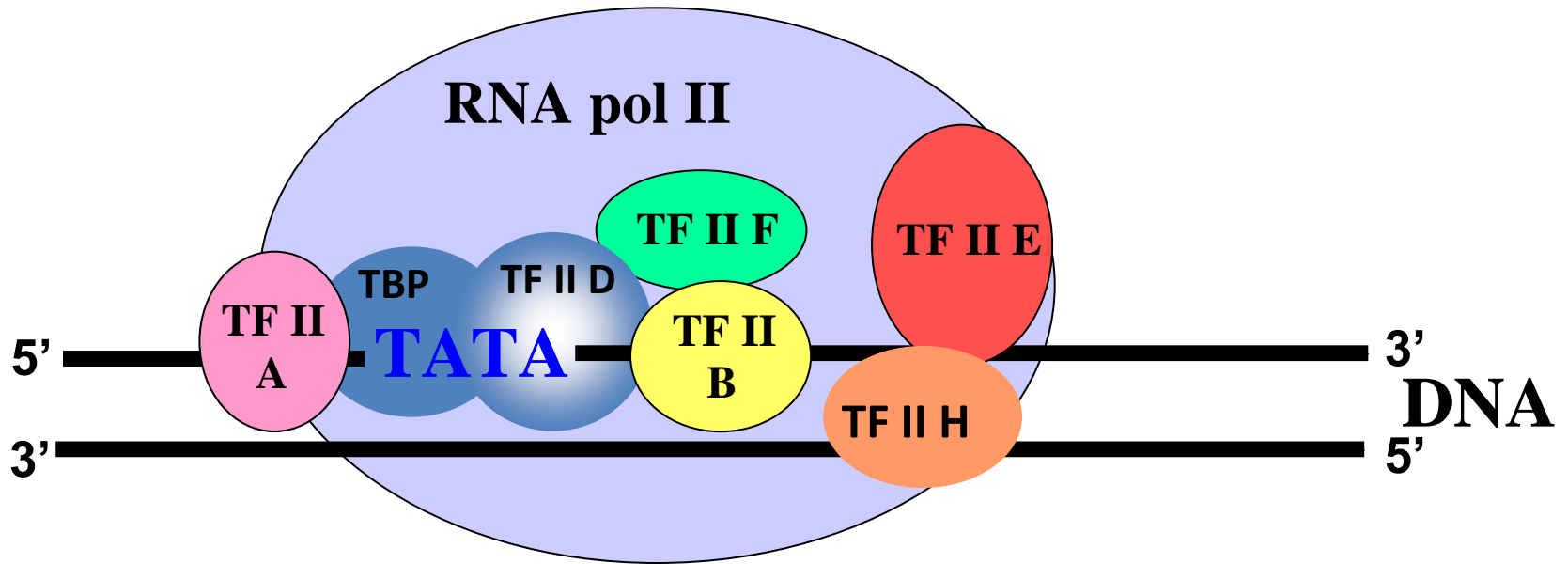
<i>Transcription protein</i>	<i>Number of subunits</i>	<i>Subunit(s) M<sub>r</sub></i>	<i>Function(s)</i>
<b>Initiation</b>			
Pol II	12	10,000–220,000	Catalyzes RNA synthesis
TBP (TATA-binding protein)	1	38,000	Specifically recognizes the TATA box
TFIIA	3	12,000, 19,000, 35,000	Stabilizes binding of TFIIB and TBP to the promoter
TFIIB	1	35,000	Binds to TBP; recruits Pol II–TFIIF complex
TFIIE	2	34,000, 57,000	Recruits TFIIH; has ATPase and helicase activities
TFIIF	2	30,000, 74,000	Binds tightly to Pol II; binds to TFIIB and prevents binding of Pol II to nonspecific DNA sequences
TFIIH	12	35,000–89,000	Unwinds DNA at promoter (helicase activity); phosphorylates Pol II (within the CTD); recruits nucleotide-excision repair proteins
<b>Elongation*</b>			
ELL <sup>†</sup>	1	80,000	
p-TEFb	2	43,000, 124,000	Phosphorylates Pol II (within the CTD)
SII (TFIIS)	1	38,000	
Elongin (SIII)	3	15,000, 18,000, 110,000	

# Pre-initiation complex (PIC)

- **TBP** of **TFII D** binds TATA-Box(-10 sequence)
- **TFII A** and **TFII B** bind TFII D
- **TFII F**- RNA-pol complex binds **TFII B**
- **TFII F** and **TFII E** open the **dsDNA** (helicase and ATPase)
- **TFII H**: completion of PIC



# Pre-initiation complex (PIC)



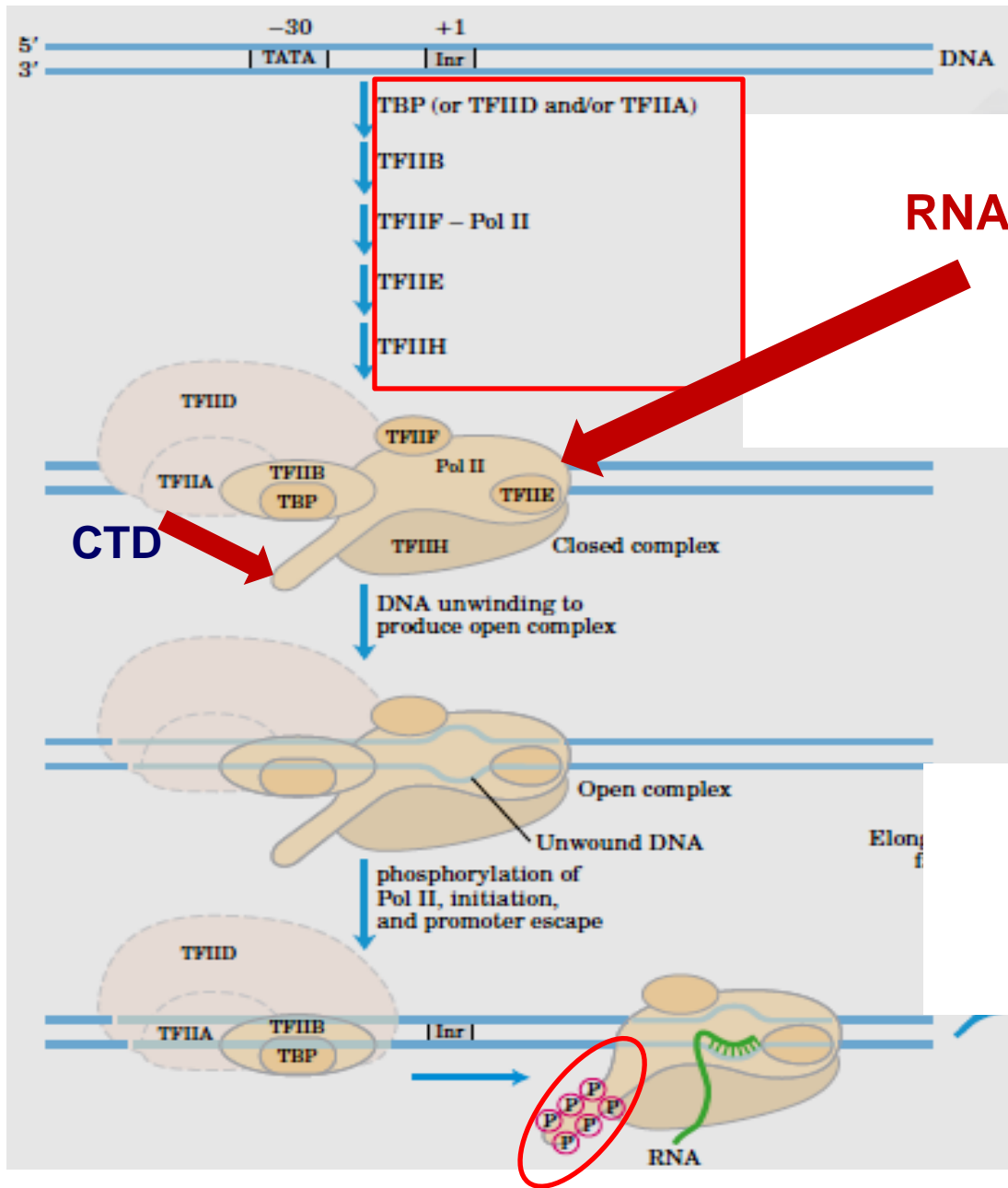
**DNA + RNA Poly-II + TBP + Transcription Factors (TF)**

# Phosphorylation of RNA-Polymerase-II

- **TF II H** is of protein kinase activity to phosphorylate **CTD** of RNA pol-II.

(CTD is the C-terminal domain of RNA pol-II)

- Only the **RNA Polymerase** can move downstream, starting the elongation phase.
- Most of the **Transcription Factors** fall off from **PIC** during the **elongation phase**.



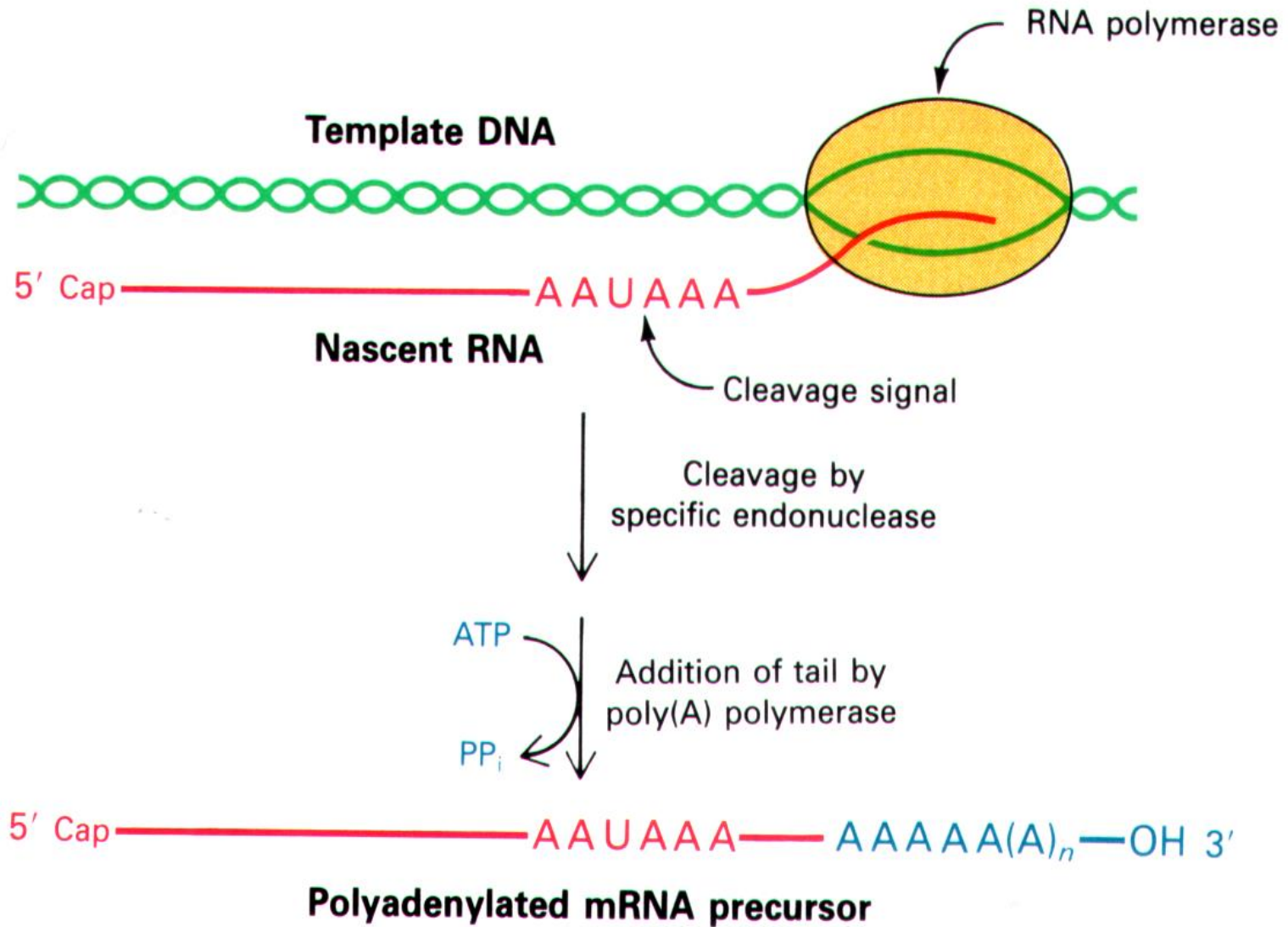
# Termination

- When the RNA Polymerase transcribes the **terminator region** of the DNA, the polymerase releases the mRNA
- The termination sequence is **AATAAA** followed by **GT repeats**.

# Elongation

**TFIIF** remains associated with **RNA Pol-II** throughout elongation.

The activity of the **RNA poly-II** is greatly enhanced by proteins called **Elongation factors**

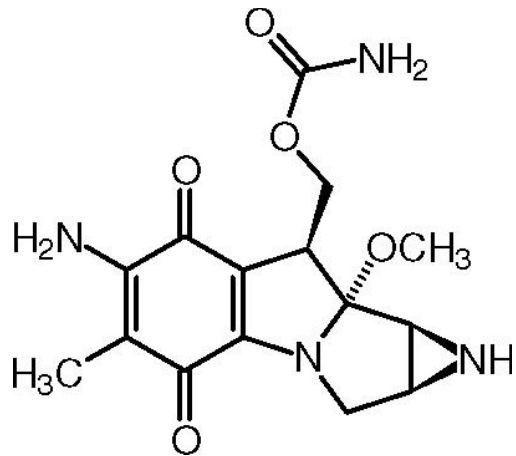




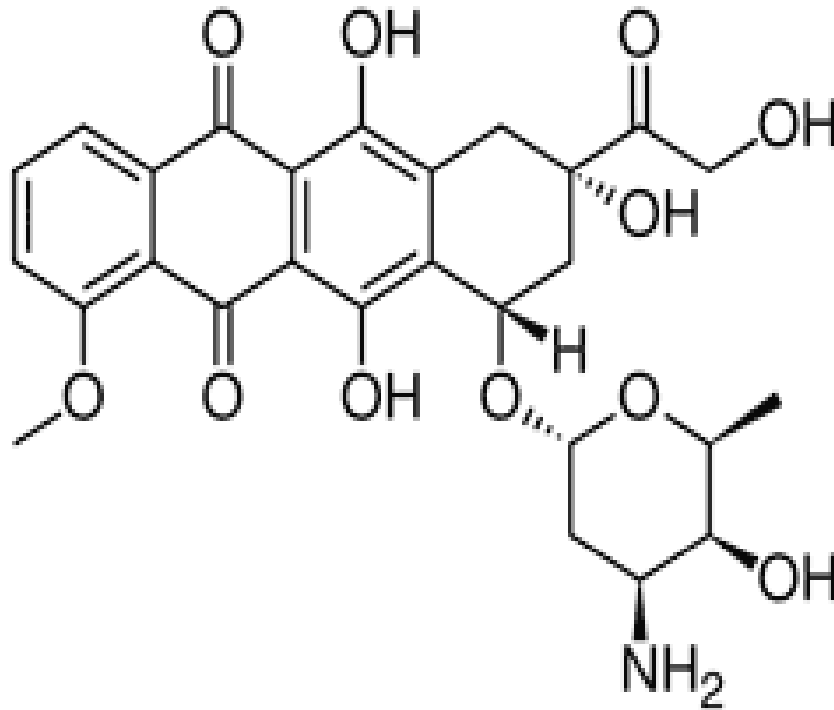
# **Inibitori della trascrizione eucariotica**

# Mitomycin

- Mitomycin- **Intercalates with DNA strands**
- Blocks transcription
- Used as **anticancer drug**

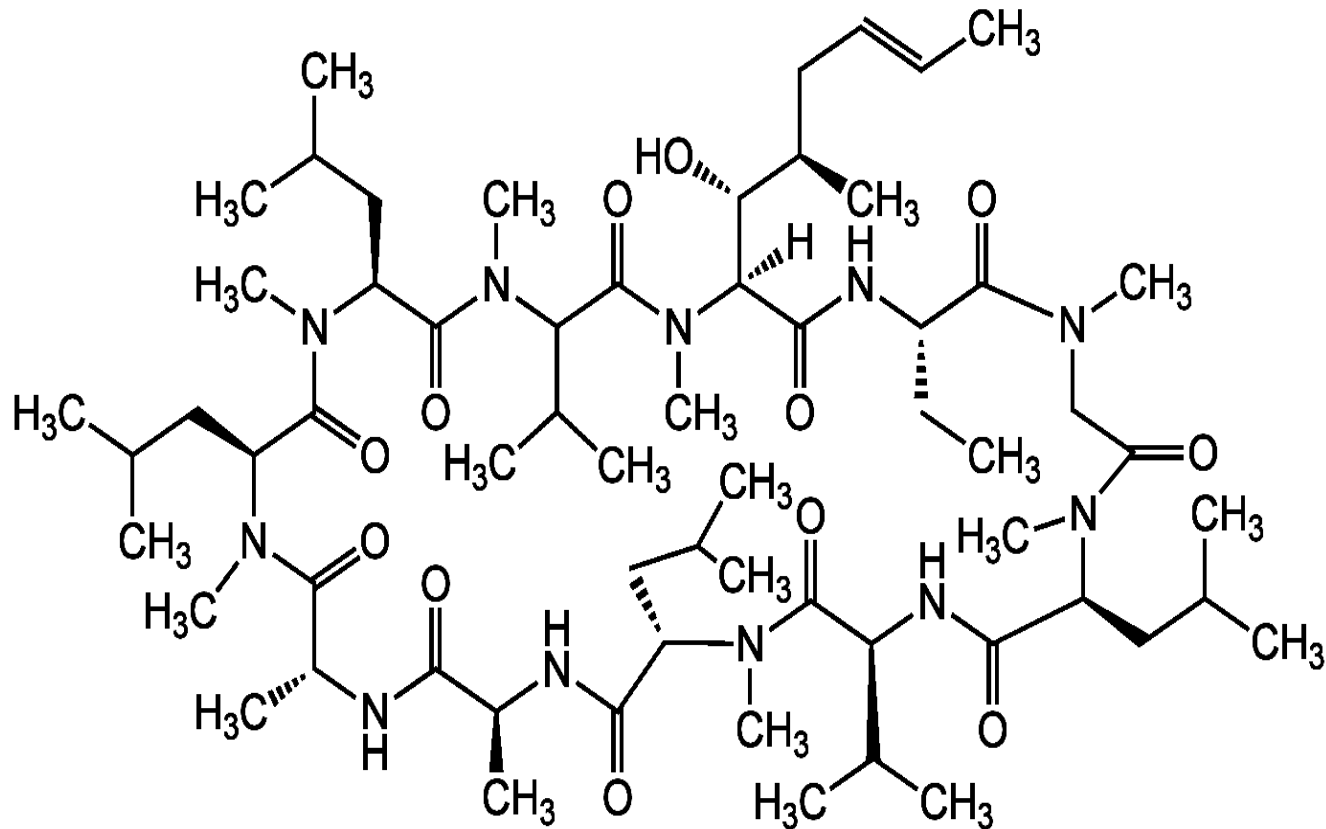


# ADRIAMYCIN



Inhibits the **Initiation phase** by preventing the interaction of **TF-IID** with **RNA-Poly-II** and **DNA complex**.

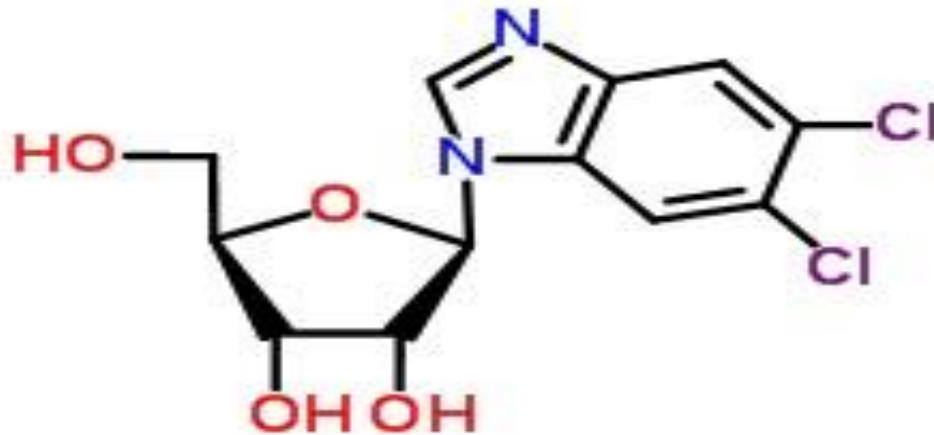
# CYCLOSPORIN -A



**Immunosuppressant Drug inhibits Transcription  
in T-Cells.**

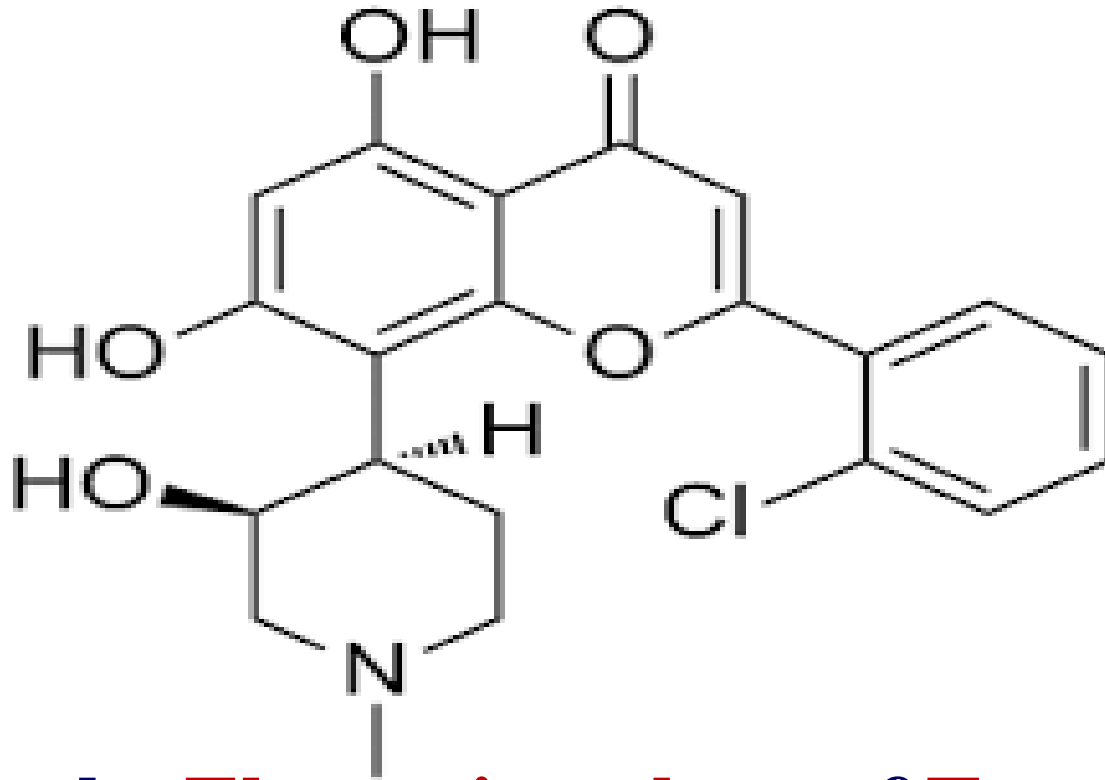
# DRB

(5,6-dichlorobenzimidazole-1- $\beta$ -D-ribofuranoside)



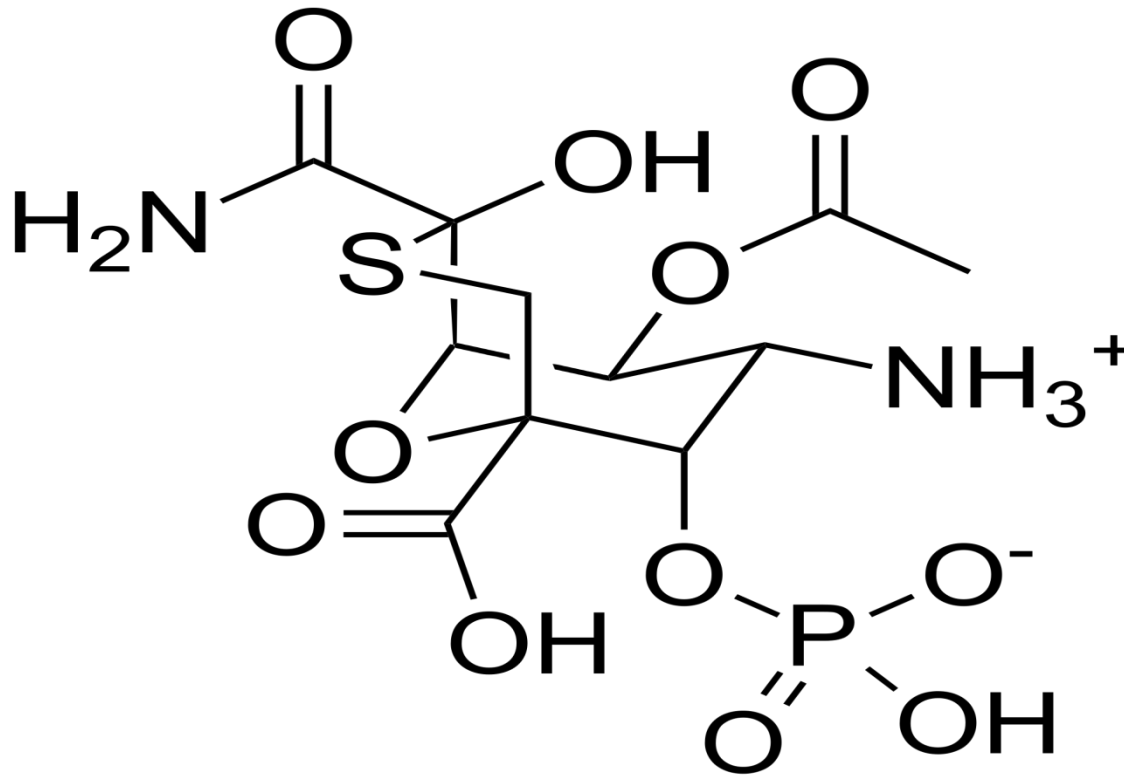
Inhibits the **Elongation** phase of **Transcription**  
by selectively inhibiting **RNA Poly-II**.

# Flavopyridol (Alvocidib)



Inhibits the **Elongation** phase of Transcription  
by selectively inhibiting **RNA Poly-II**.

# Tagetitoxin



**Inhibits tRNA synthesis by binding to RNA Poly-III.**

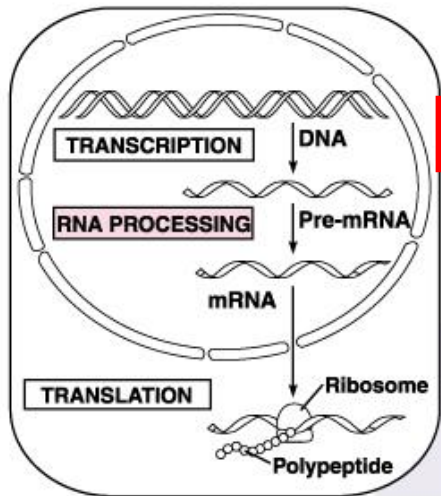
# **Post-Transcriptional Modifications**



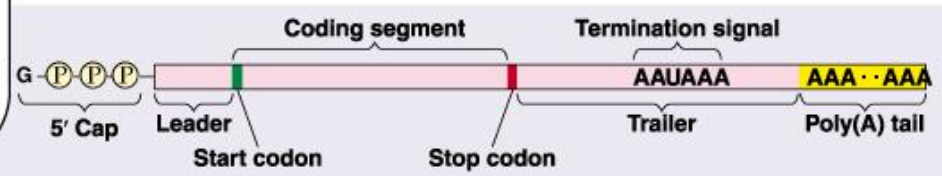
- The nascent RNA, also known as Primary transcript, needs to be modified to become functional, mRNAs, tRNAs and rRNAs.
- These modification is critical to eukaryotic systems.

## **Posttranscriptional modifications to eukaryotic pre-mRNA**

<b>Modification</b>	<b>Function</b>
<b>Addition of 5' cap</b>	<b>Facilitates binding of ribosome to 5' end of mRNA, increases mRNA stability, enhances RNA splicing</b>
<b>3' cleavage and addition of poly(A) tail</b>	<b>Increases stability of mRNA, facilitates binding of ribosome to mRNA</b>
<b>RNA splicing</b>	<b>Removes noncoding introns from pre-mRNA, facilitates export of mRNA to cytoplasm, allows for multiple proteins to be produced through alternative splicing</b>
<b>RNA editing</b>	<b>Alters nucleotide sequence of mRNA</b>



# Modification of hnRNA



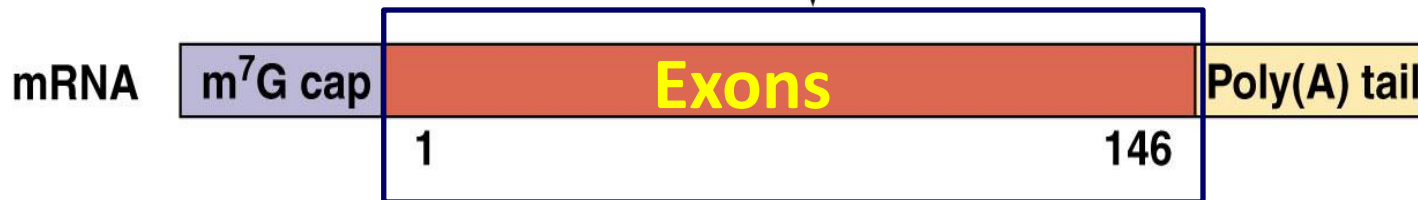
- **Primary transcripts of mRNA are called as heteronuclear RNA (hnRNA).**
- **hnRNA** are larger than **matured mRNA** by many folds.
- **Modification includes**
  - **Capping at the 5'- end**
  - **Tailing at the 3'- end**
  - **mRNA splicing**
  - **RNA editing**

# Post Transcriptional modifications of **Pre-mRNA (or) hnRNA**

Primary transcript (pre-mRNA)

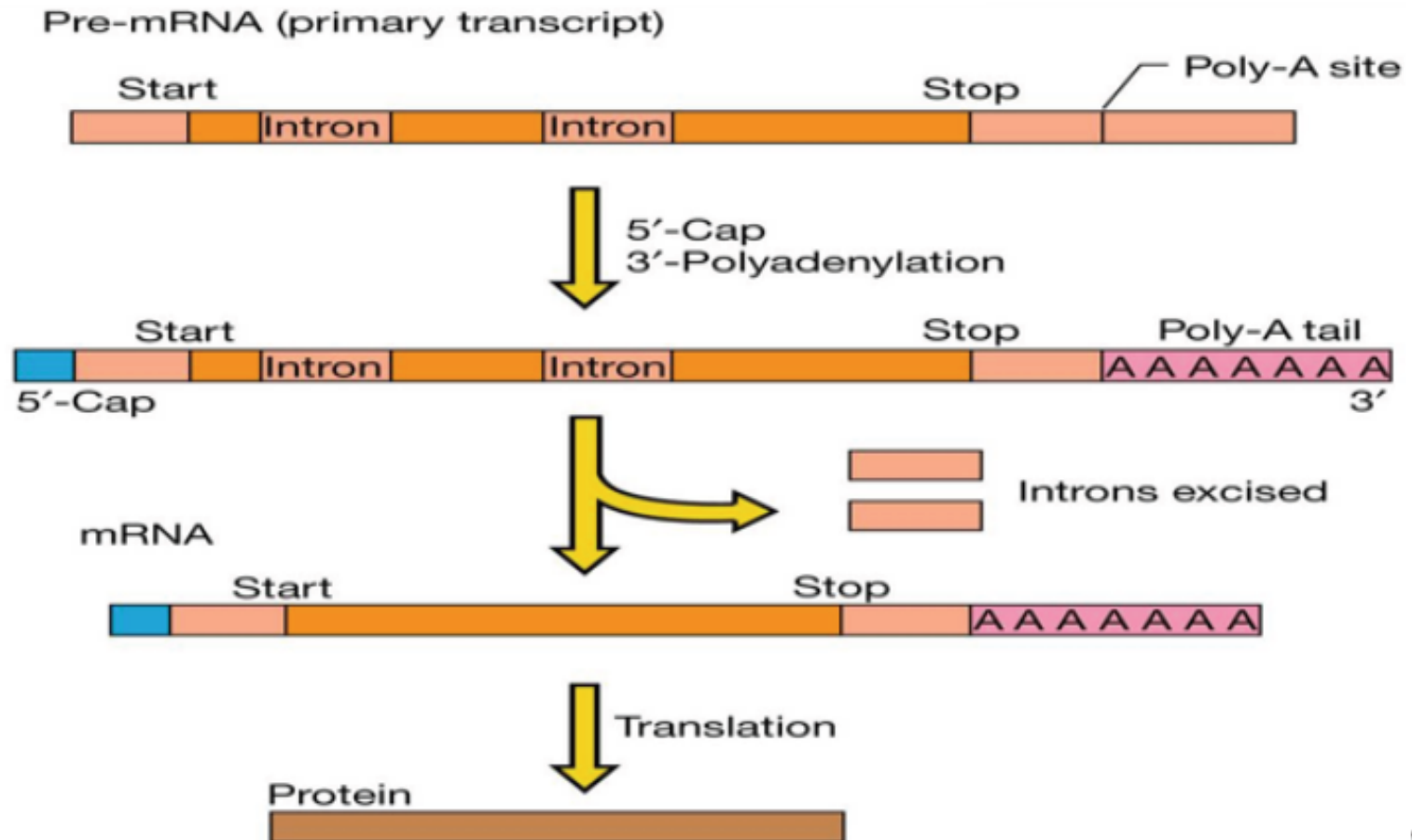


Introns excised and  
exons spliced together

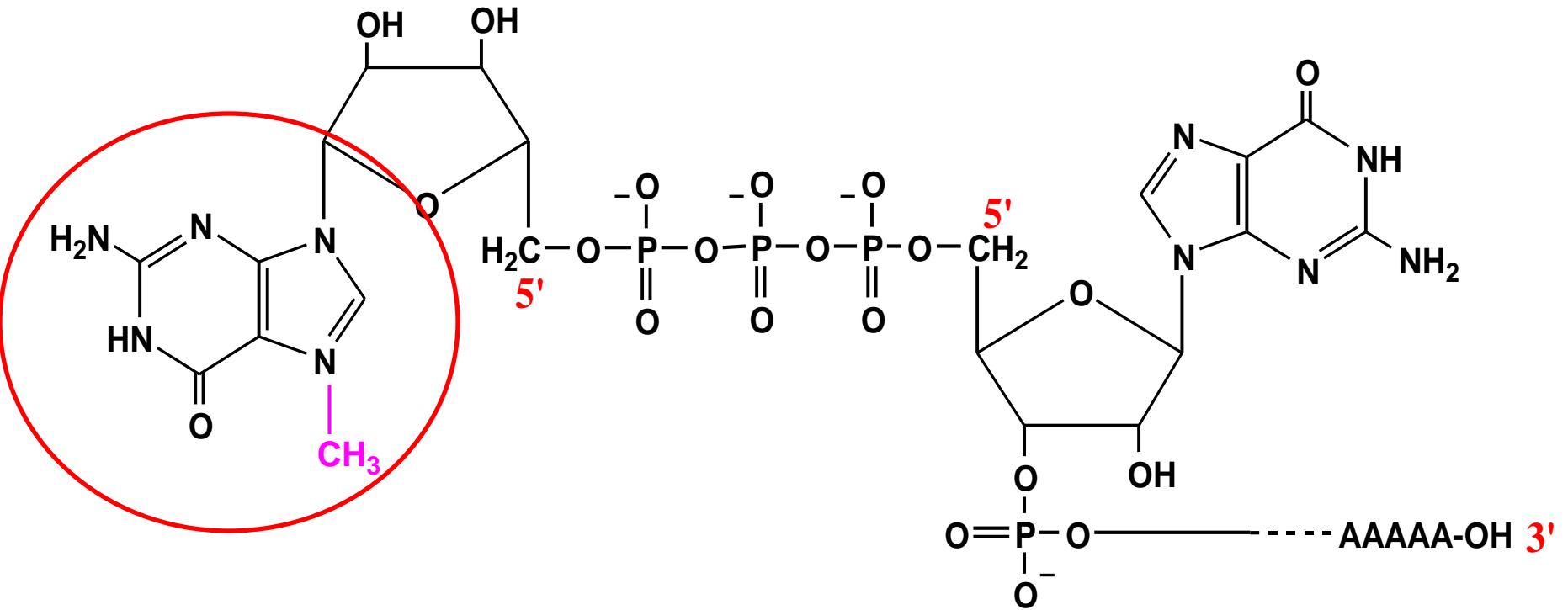


- **Introns** are removed from the primary transcript in the nucleus, **exons (coding sequences)** are ligated to form the mRNA molecule.

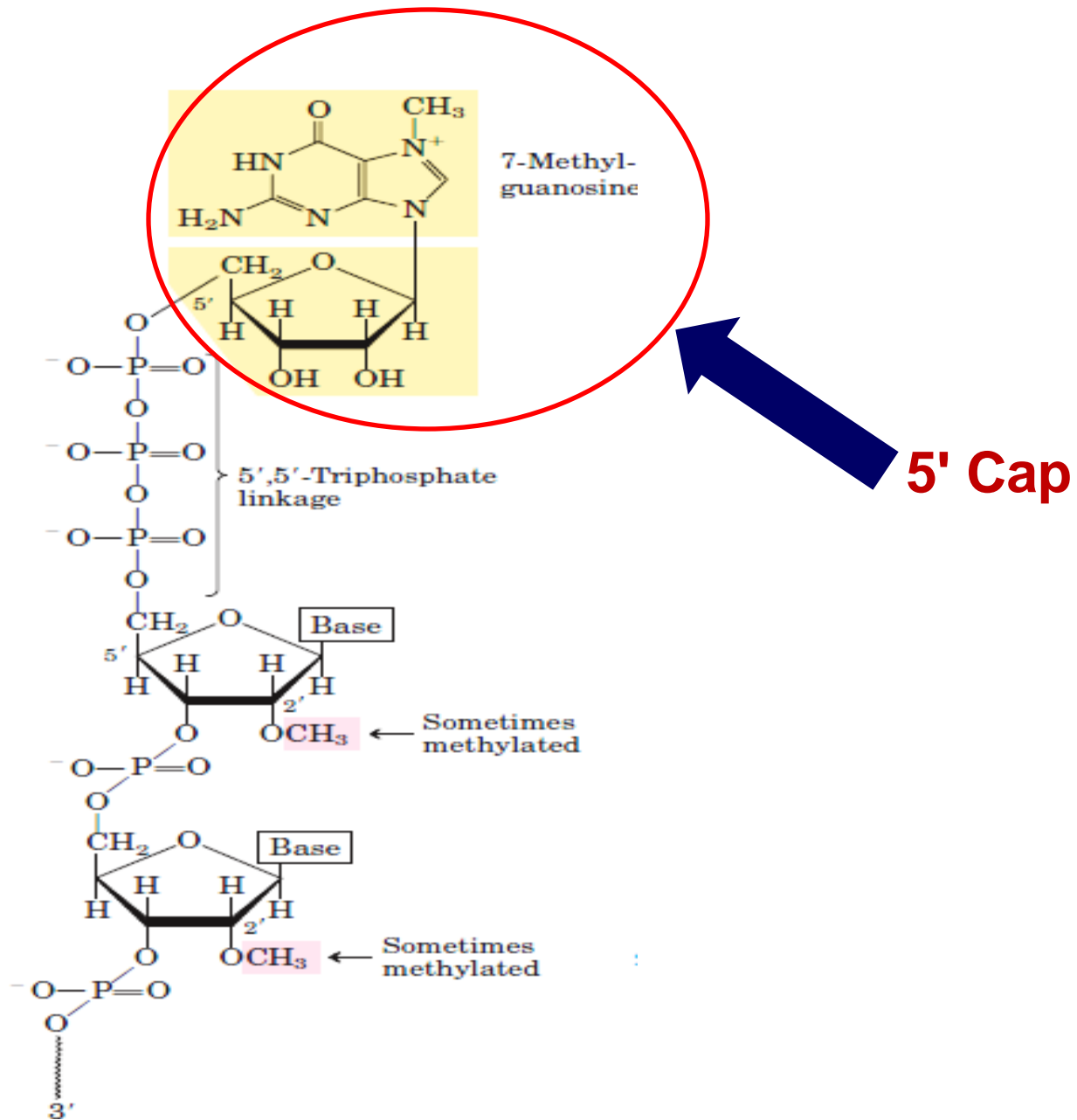
# pre-mRNA maturation



# Capping at the 5'- end



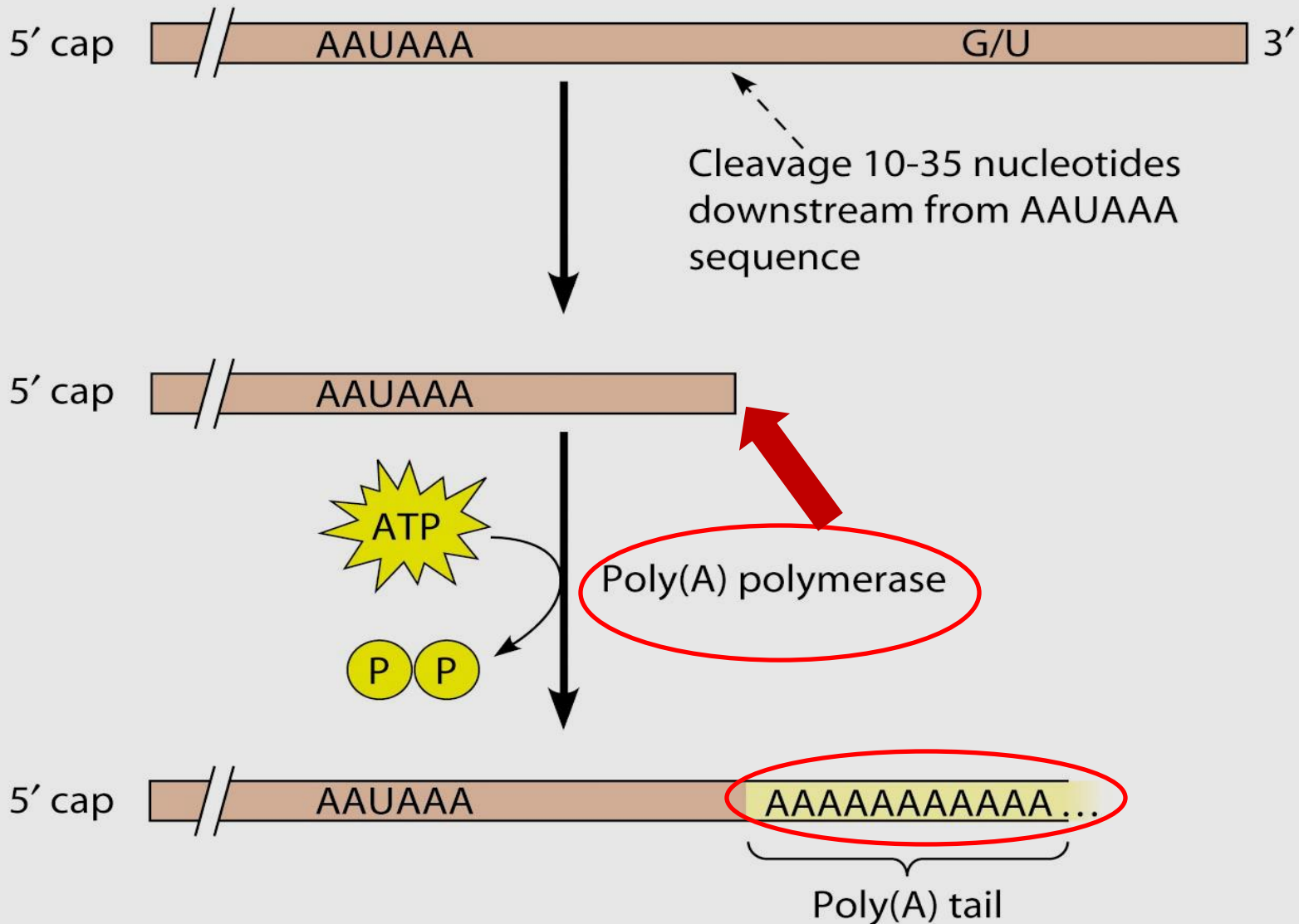
**m<sup>7</sup>GpppGp----**



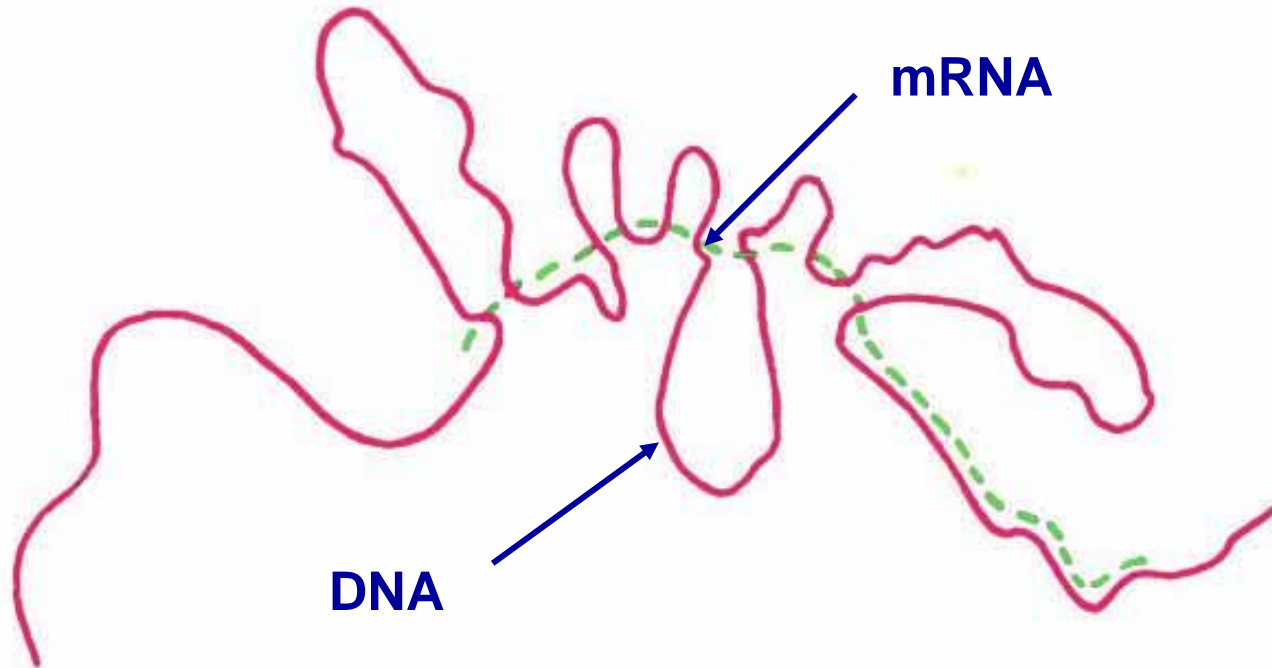
- The 5'- cap structure is found on **hnRNA** too. ⇒ The capping process occurs in **nuclei**.
- The cap structure of mRNA will be recognized by the **cap-binding protein** required for translation.
- The **capping** occurs **prior to** the splicing.



# Poly-A tailing at 3' - end



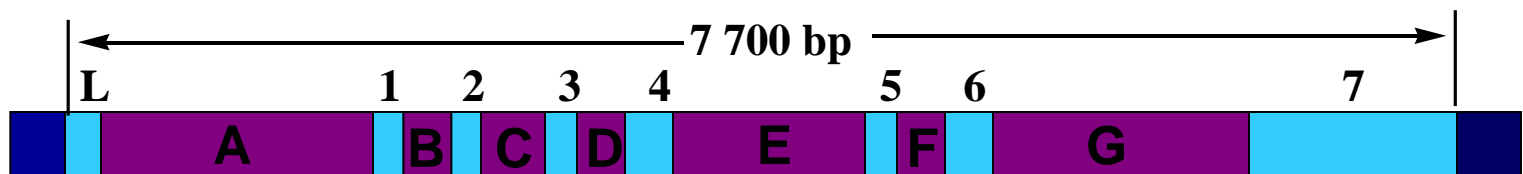
# mRNA splicing



**The matured mRNAs are much shorter than the DNA templates.**

# Split gene

The structural genes are composed of Coding (Exons) and Non-coding (Introns) regions that are alternatively separated.



**A~G no-coding region**      **1~7 coding region**

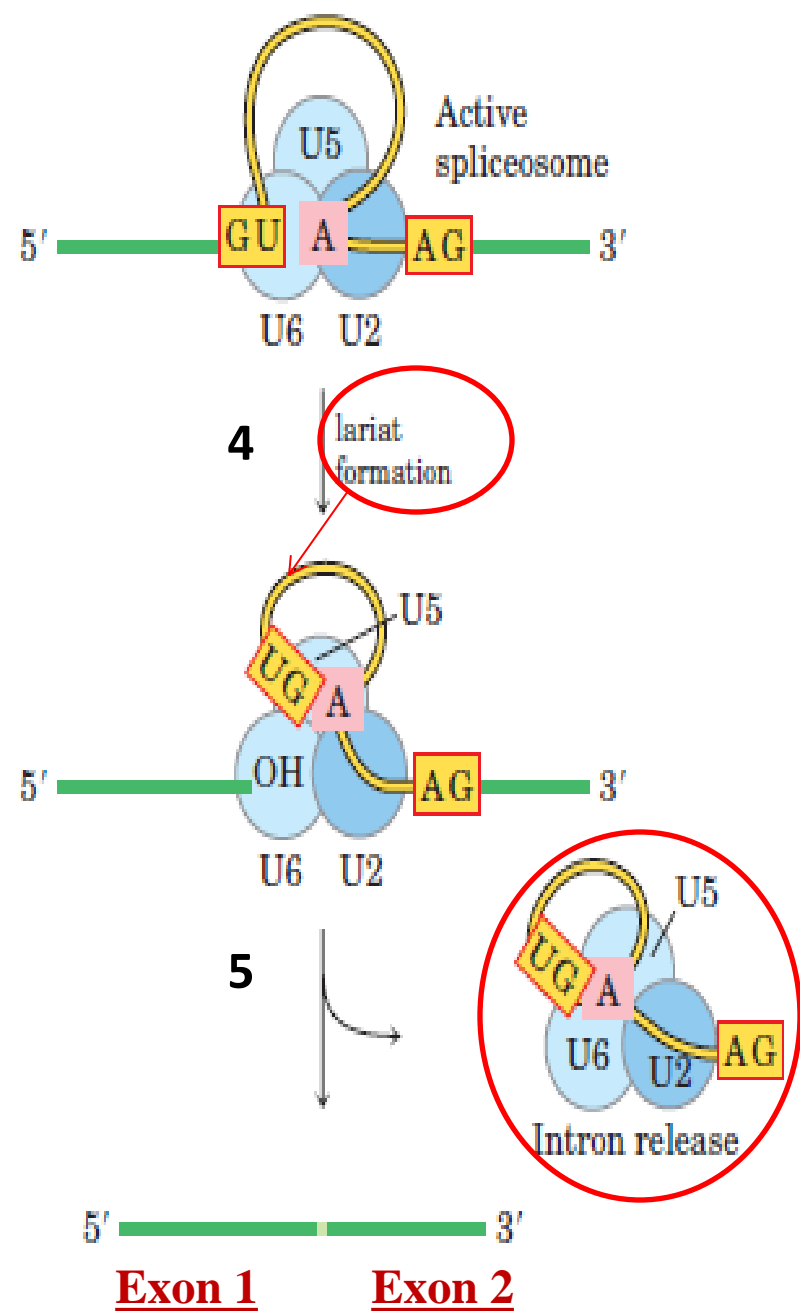
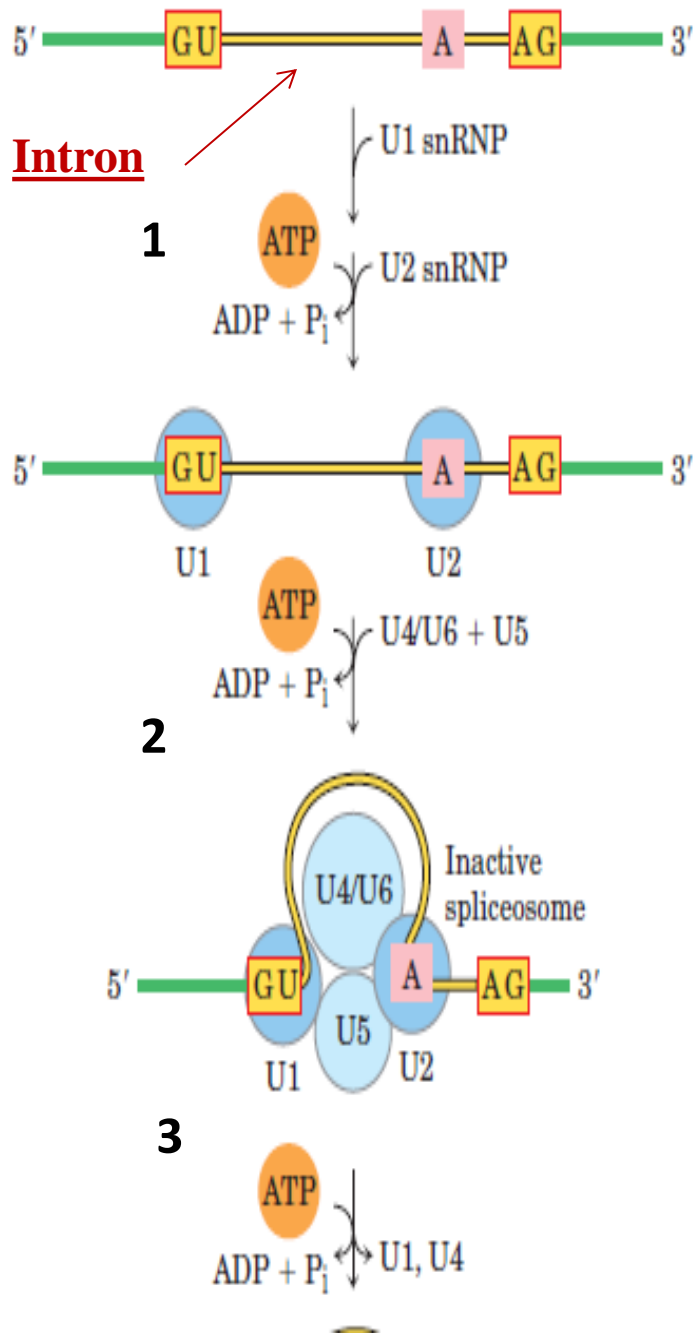
# Splicing of hnRNA / pre-mRNA

- **Introns (or) intervening sequences** are the RNA sequences which do not code for the proteins.
- Introns usually start with **5'-GU**.
- Introns usually end with **3'-AG**.
- **RNA splicing** involves the removal **introns** from **pre-mRNA** and is carried out by small nuclear complexes **Spliceosomes**.

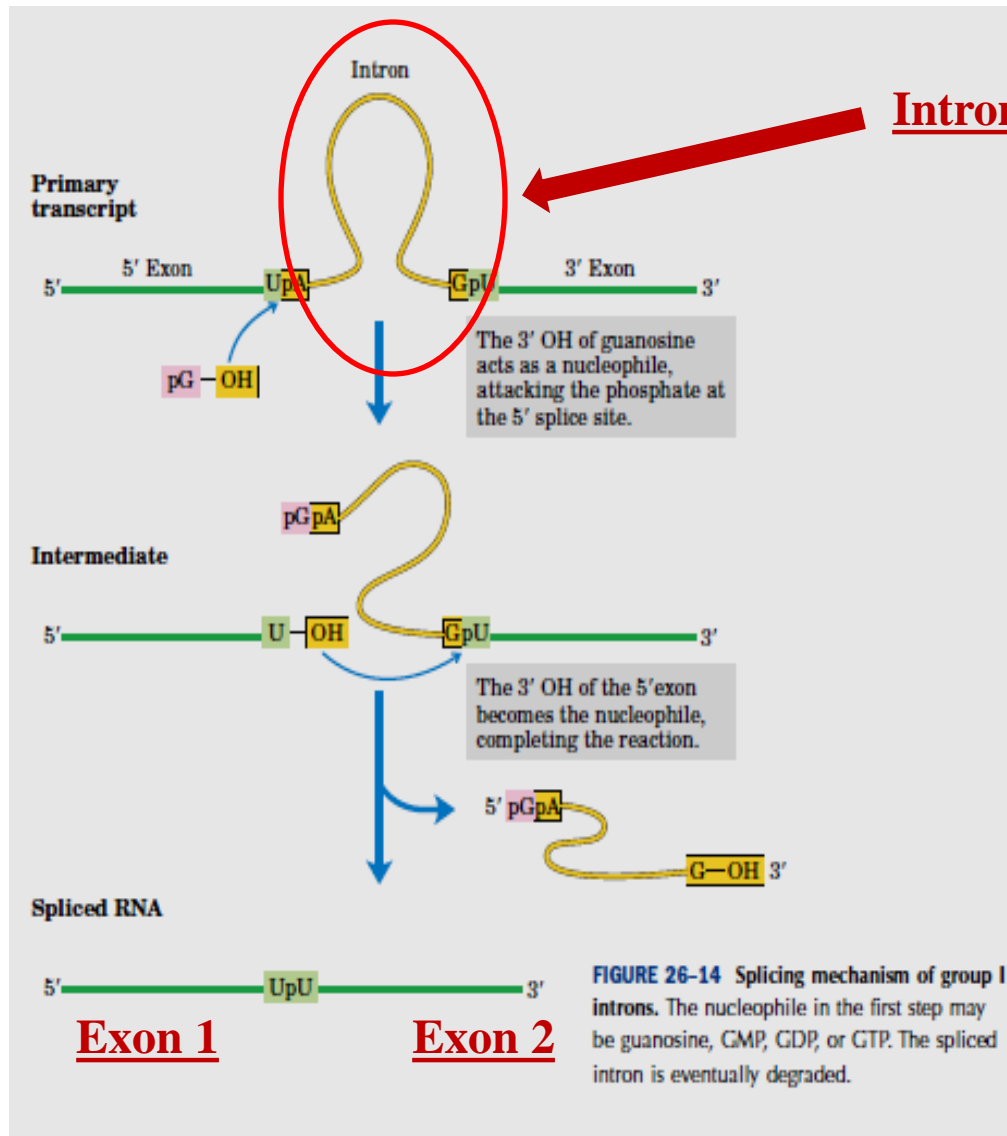
# Spliceosome

- **The spliceosome is a large Protein-RNA complex in which splicing of pre-mRNAs occurs.**
- **The spliceosome is made up of specialized RNA and Protein complexes called small nuclear RibonucleoProteins (snRNPs, often pronounced “snurps”).**
- **Each snRNP contains RNAs with 100 to 200 nucleotides long, known as small nuclear RNAs (snRNAs).**

- **Five snRNAs (U1, U2, U4, U5, and U6) involved in splicing reactions are generally found in abundance in eukaryotic nuclei.**
- **Splice sites of Introns are recognized by snRNPs.**

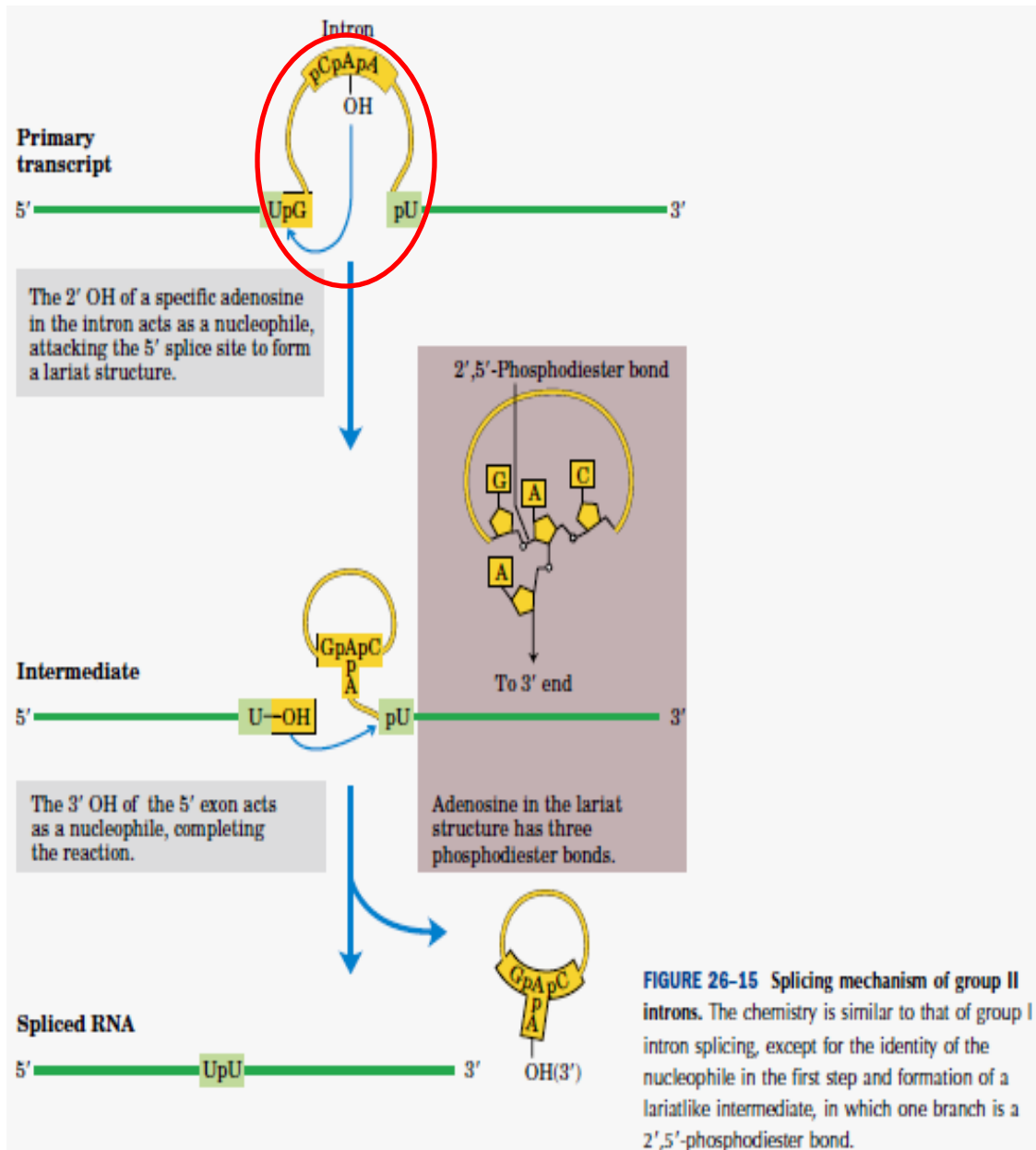


# Self splicing Introns (Group –I Introns)

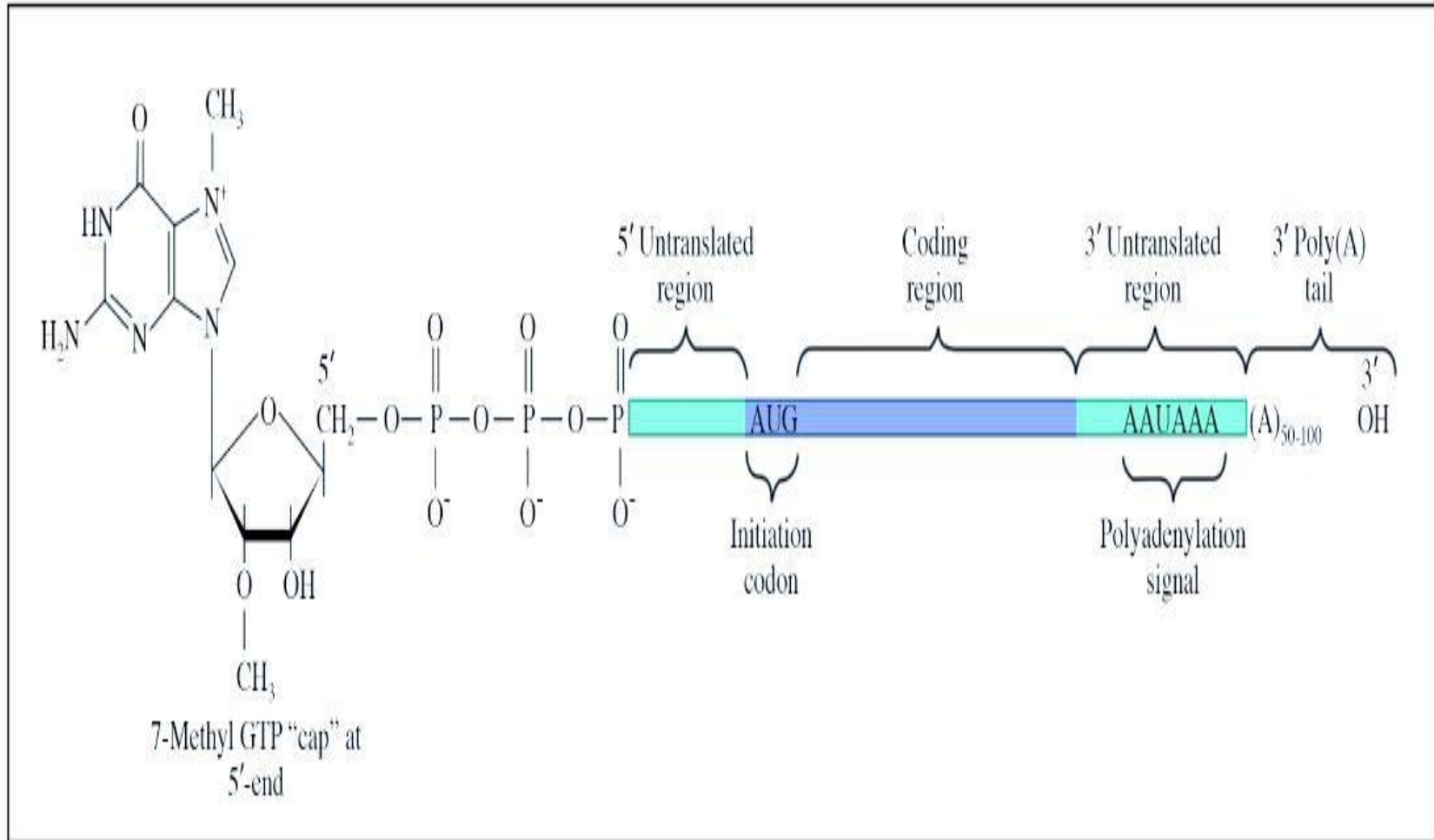




# Self splicing Introns (Group –II Introns)



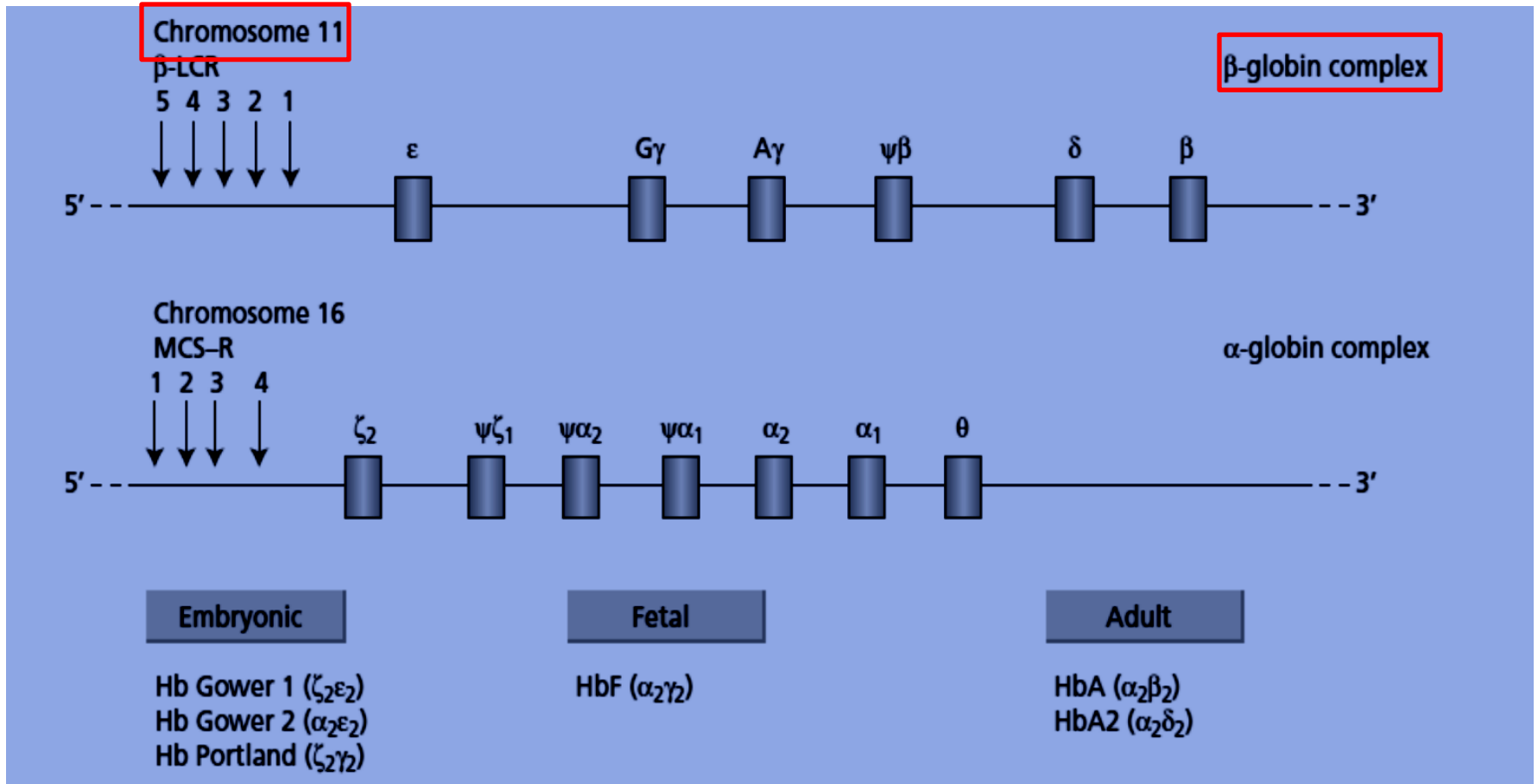
# Eukaryotic m-RNA after modifications



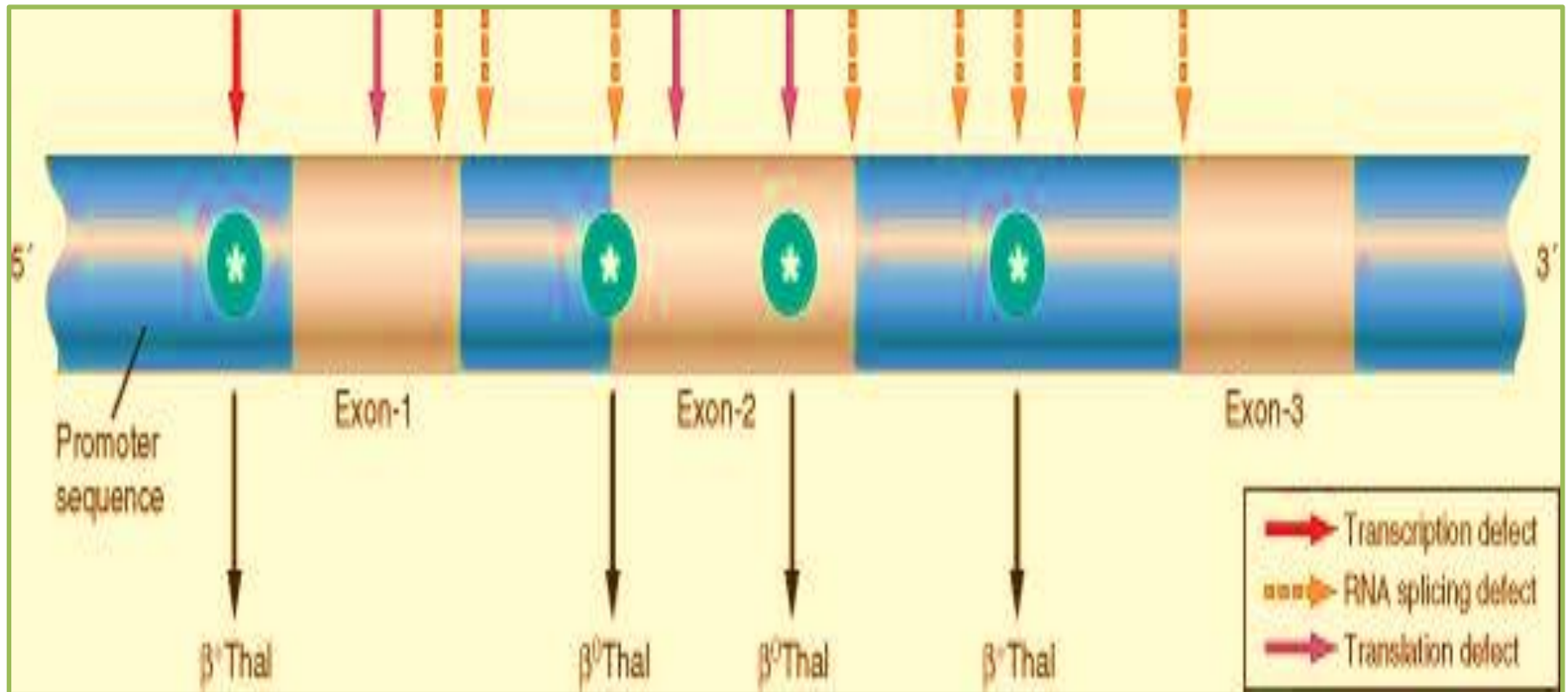
# Splice site mutations

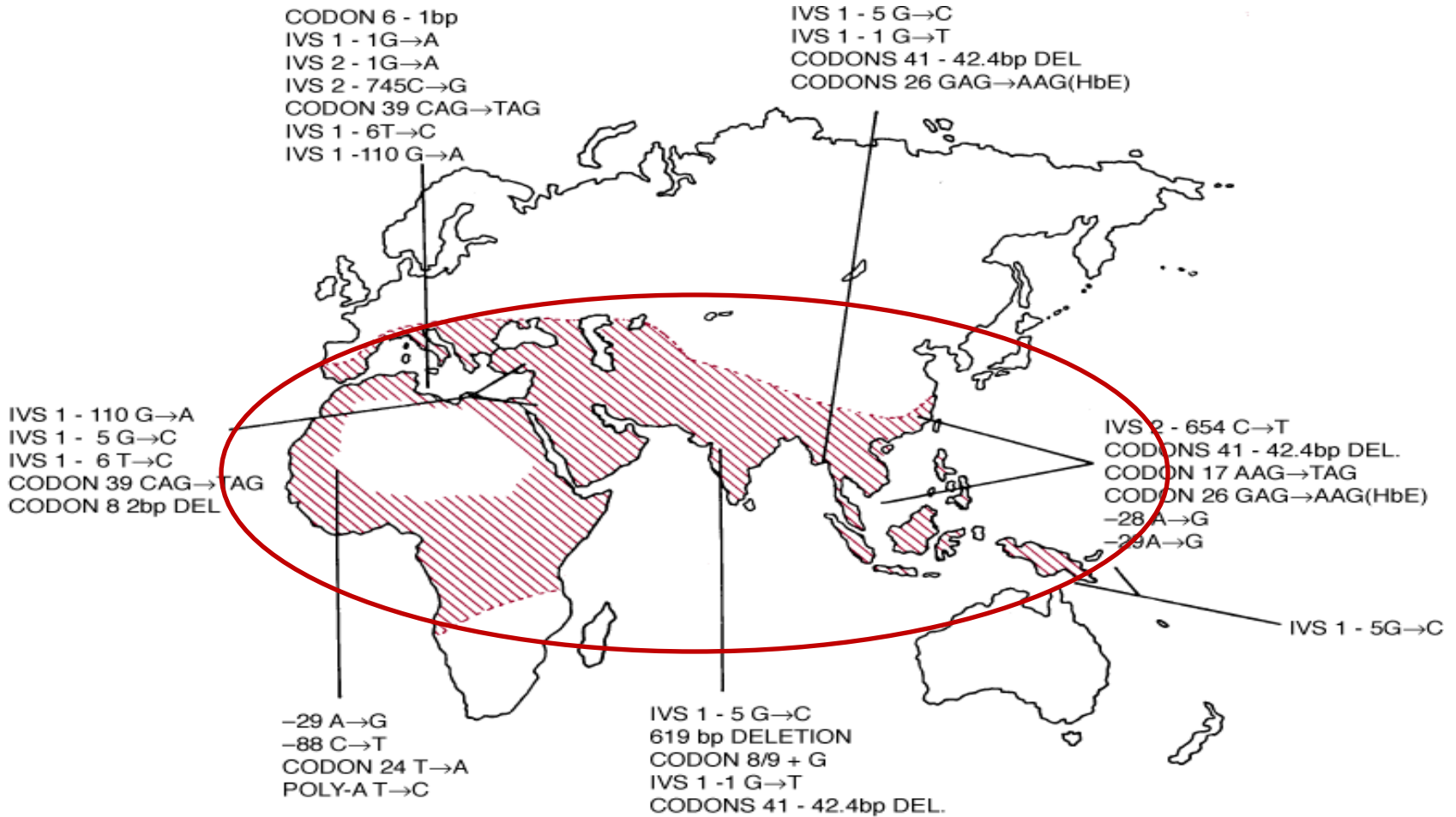
- Mutation at splice sites can lead to improper splicing and production of **abberant proteins**
- **Eg:  $\beta$  - thalassemia**
- $\beta$ -subunit of hemoglobin is not formed in sufficient amount.
- It results from point mutation in  $\beta$ -globin gene where the **G $\rightarrow$ A mutation occurs.**
- This creates a new splice acceptor site nineteen nucleotides upstream from the normal splice acceptor
- A faulty **beta-globin** protein is made, leading to severe anemia.

# Location of Globin genes



# Distribution of $\beta$ -globin gene mutations associated with $\beta$ -thalassemia.





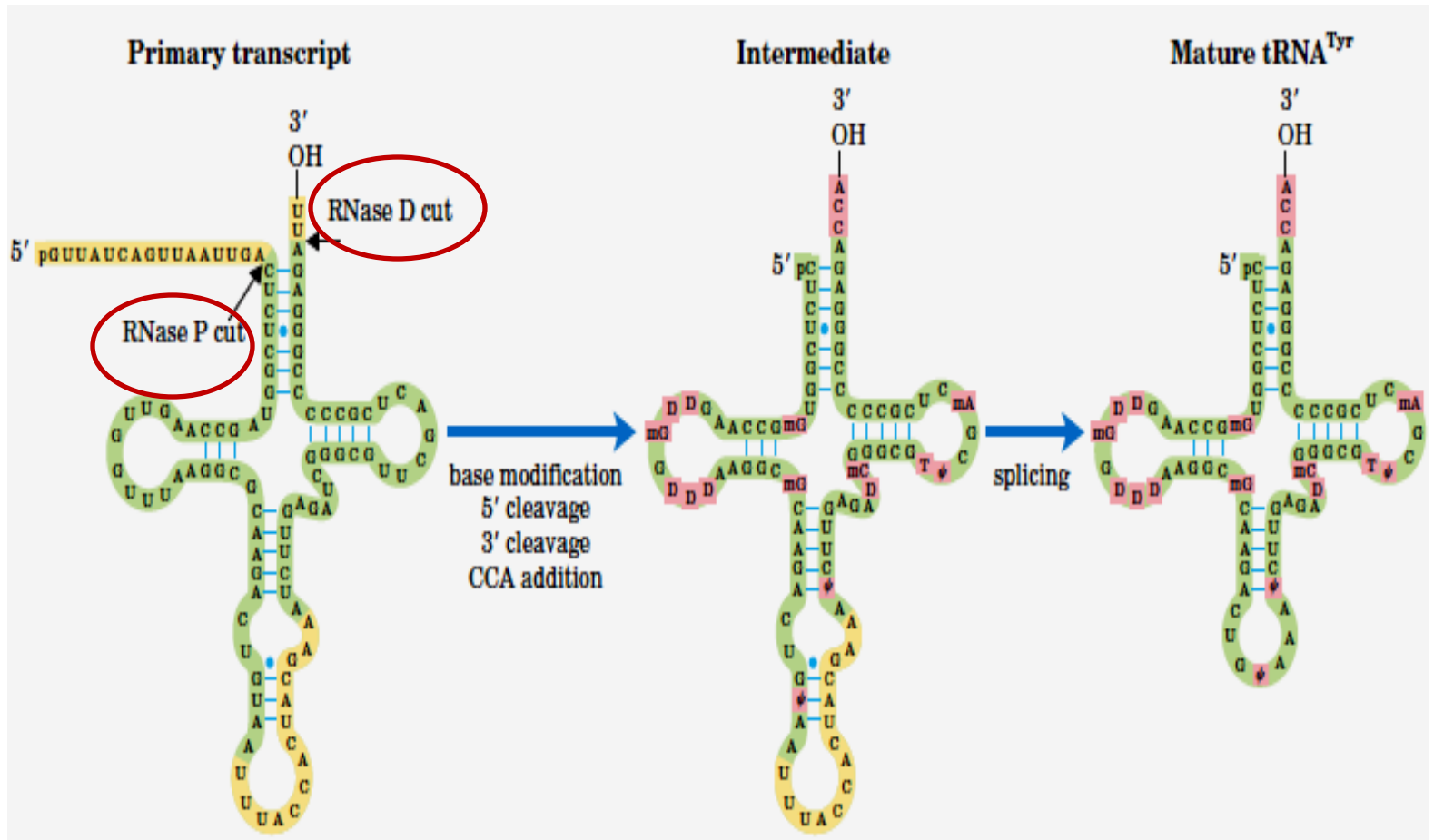
Source: Lichtman MA, Kipps TJ, Seligsohn U, Kaushansky K, Prchal JT:  
*Williams Hematology, 8th Edition*: <http://www.accessmedicine.com>  
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# World distribution of **β-thalassemia**

# Clinical syndromes in $\beta$ -THALASSEMIA

<b><math>\beta</math>-Thalassemia major</b>	<b>Severe; requires blood transfusions</b>
<b><math>\beta</math>-Thalassemia intermedia</b>	<b>Severe but does not require regular blood transfusions</b>
<b><math>\beta</math>-Thalassemia minor</b>	<b>Asymptomatic with mild or absent anemia; red cell abnormalities seen</b>

# Modification of tRNA

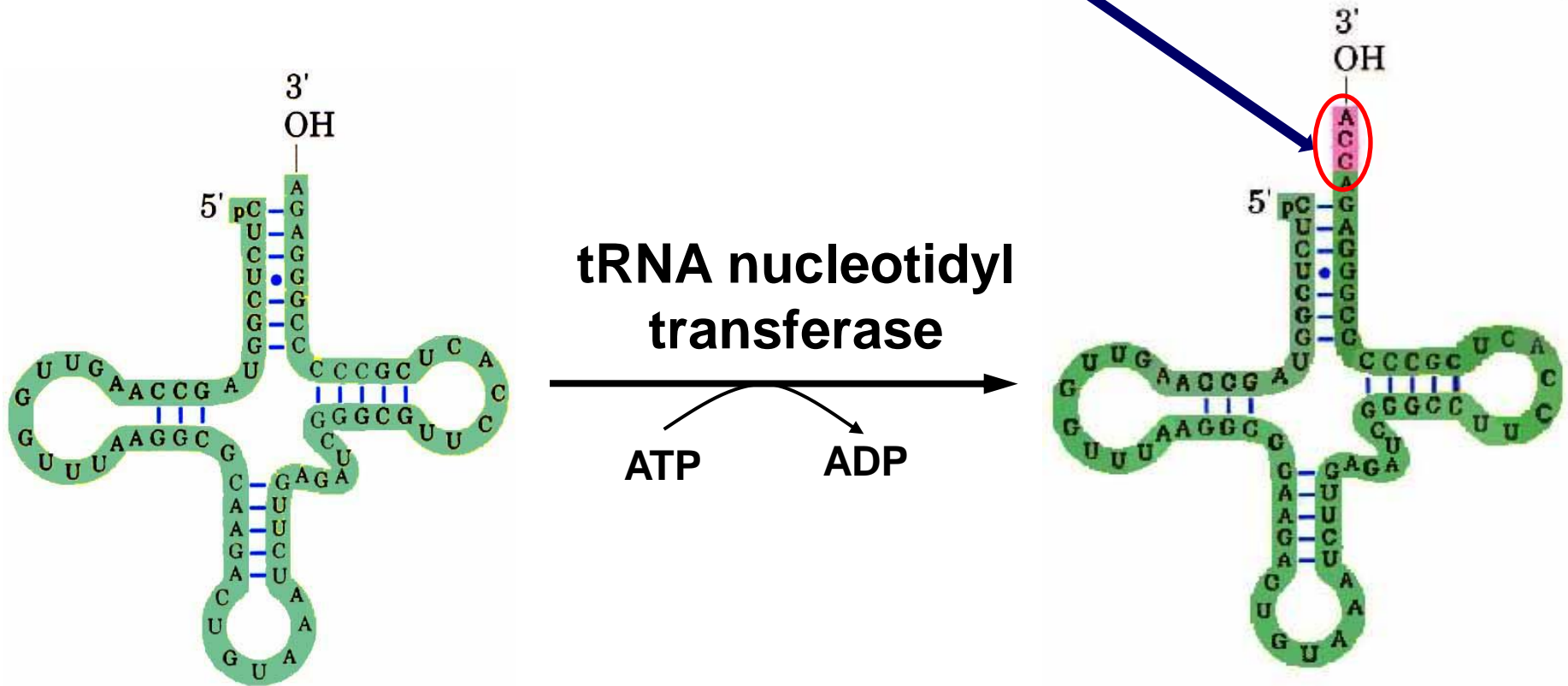




# Endo- and exonucleases to generate ends of tRNA

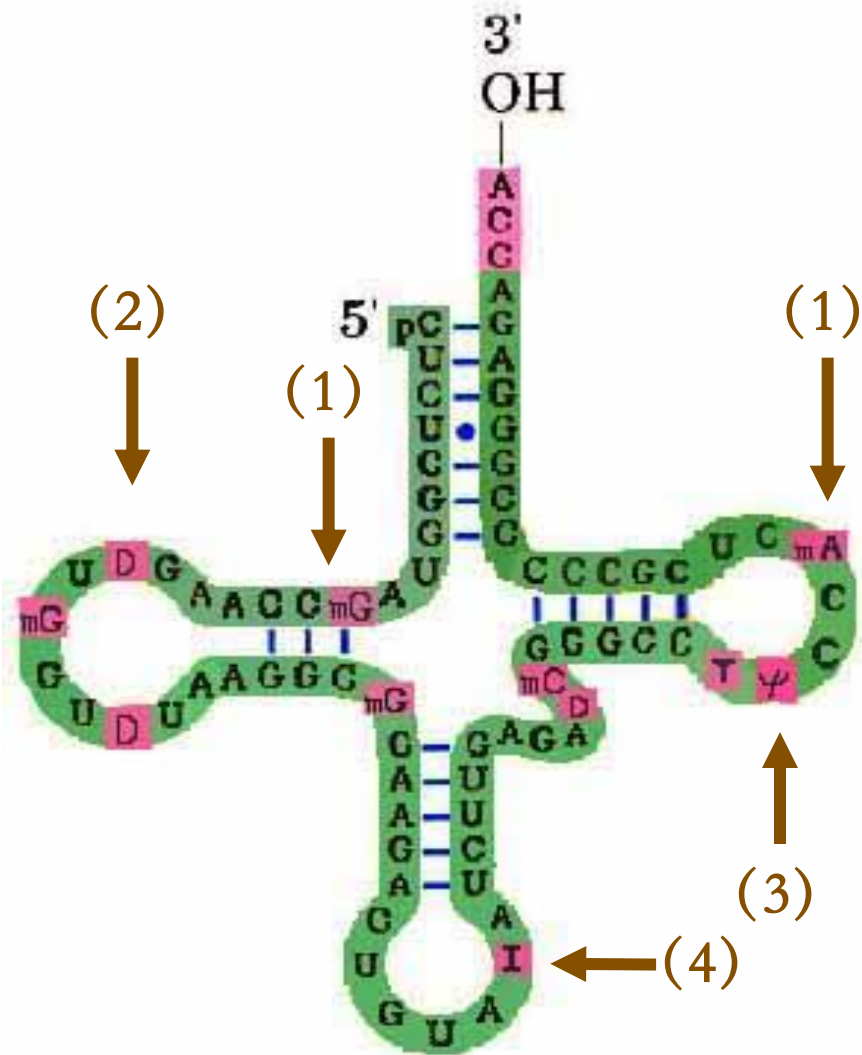
- Endonuclease **RNase P** cleaves to generate the **5' end**.
- Exonuclease **RNase D** trims 3' to 5', leaving the mature **3' end**.

# Addition of **-CCA-OH** at 3' region



**At 3'-CCA region of tRNA an activated Amino acid will be attached during Protein Synthesis.**

# Base modifications



## 1. Methylation

$A \rightarrow mA$ ,  $G \rightarrow mG$

## 2. Reduction

$U \rightarrow DHU$

## 3. Transversion

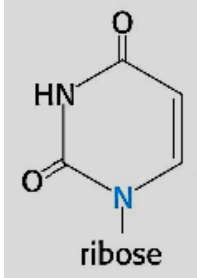
$U \rightarrow \psi$

## 4. Deamination

$A \rightarrow I$

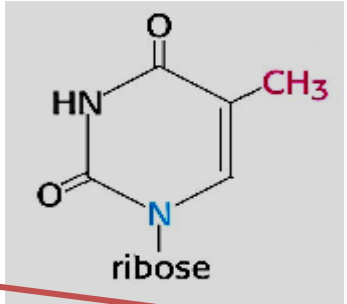
Modification of some bases

uridine

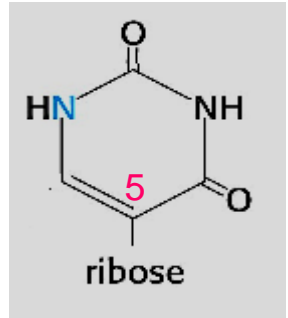


methylation

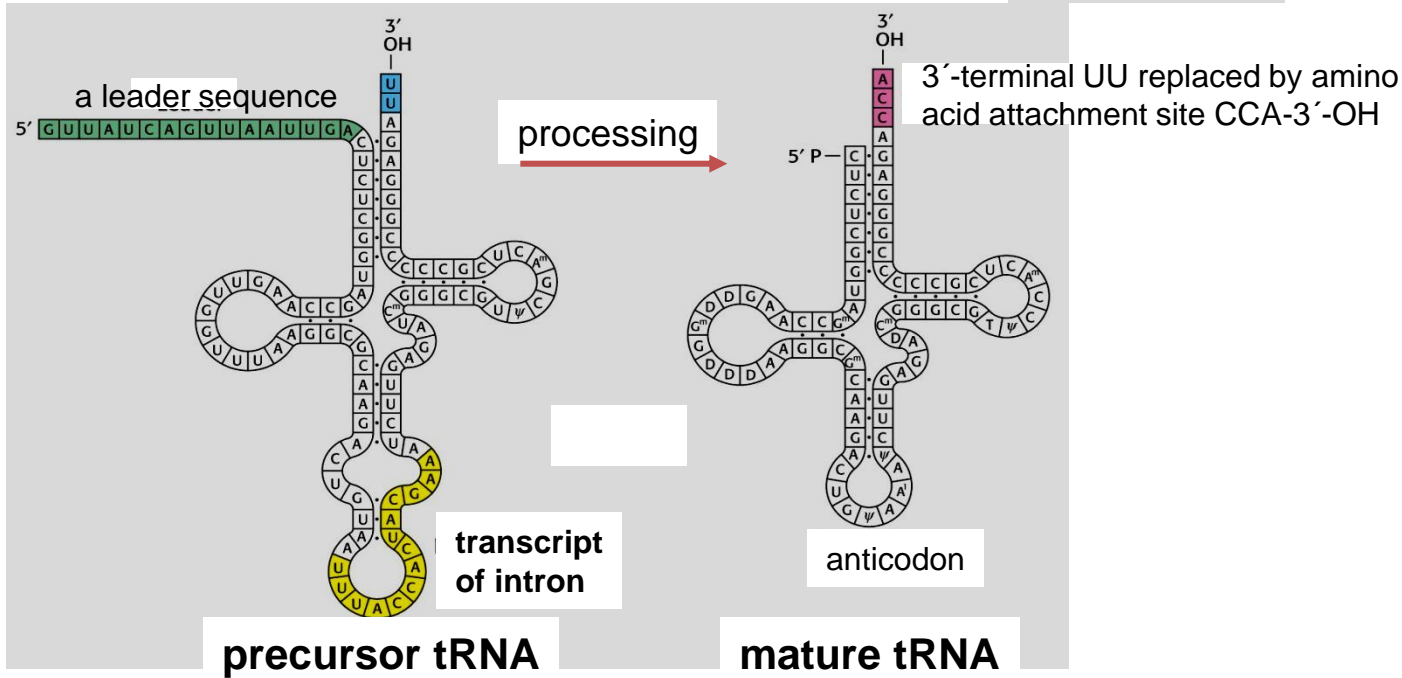
transformation of the linkage to ribosyl



ribosyl thymine

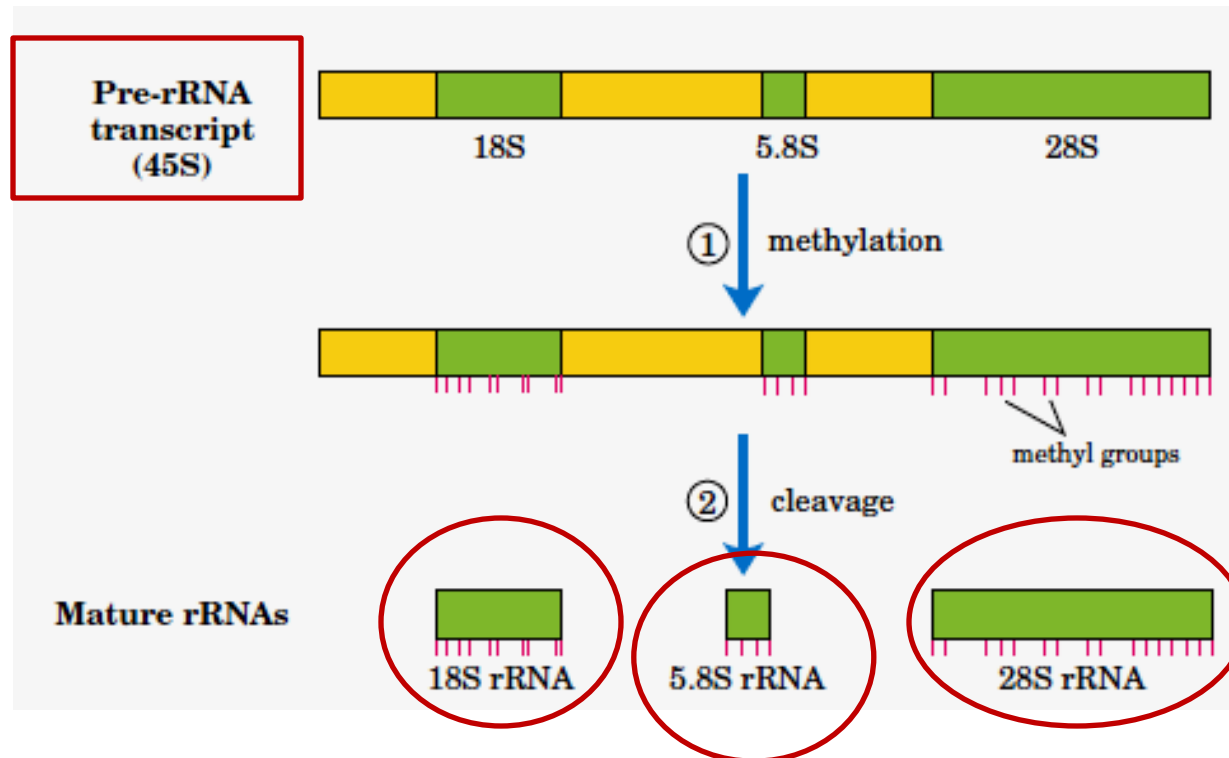


pseudouridine (φ)

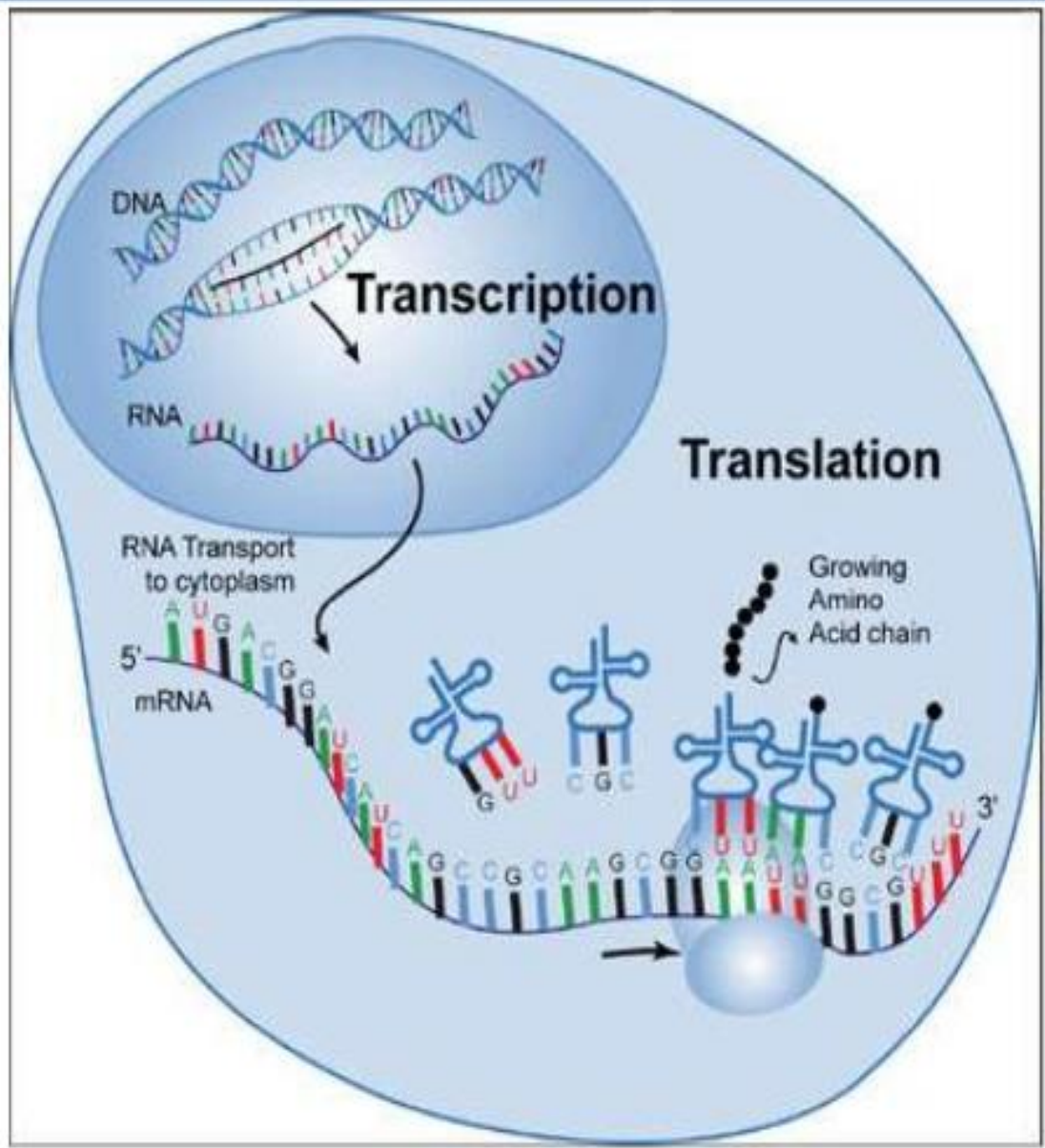


# Modification of rRNA

- **45S Pre-rRNA transcript** in nucleus is the precursor of **3 kinds of rRNAs**.
- The matured rRNA will be assembled with ribosomal proteins to form **ribosomes** that are exported to **cytosolic space**.



# **TRADUZIONE**



# TRADUZIONE

## Strutture coinvolte e sommario

### t-RNA - Struttura e caratteristiche

- Caratteristiche di base

### I ribosomi

- Procariotici (componenti)
- Eucariotici (componenti)
- Funzioni delle unita' ribosomiali

### L'mRNA e il codice genetico

- Caratteristiche dell'mRNA procariotico

### ed eucariotico

- Il codice genetico e le sue caratteristiche
- Wobbling & codice genetico



- **Aattivazione degli aminoacidic e caricamento del t-RNA**
- **Specificita' e fedelta' della reazione di acilazione**
- **Sintesi proteica nei procarioti**
- **Complesso di iniziazione e fattori di iniziazione**
- **Terminazione**
- **Antibiotici**

### **Traduzione eucariotica**

- **Fattori di iniziazione, elongazione e terminazione eucariotiche**
- **Difterite & suoi effetti**
- **Ferro & e sintesi della globina**

**La traduzione e' il processo con il quale una sequenza di triplette nucleotidiche in un RNA messaggero da origine a una specifica sequenza di amino acidi durante la sintesi di una catena polipeptidica (o) proteina.**

- **La traduzione avviene nel citoplasma e richiede il coinvolgimento di unita' di sintesi proteica - Ribosomi, mRNA, t-RNA, Amino acidi, Aminoacyl-RNA syntetasi e molte altre proteine.**

# Il Dogma Centrale

5' -ATGCCTAGGTACCTATGA-3'

3' -TACGGATCCATGGATACT-5'

**DNA**



**trascrizione**

5' -AUGCCUAGGUACCUAUGA-3'

**mRNA**



**decodificata come**

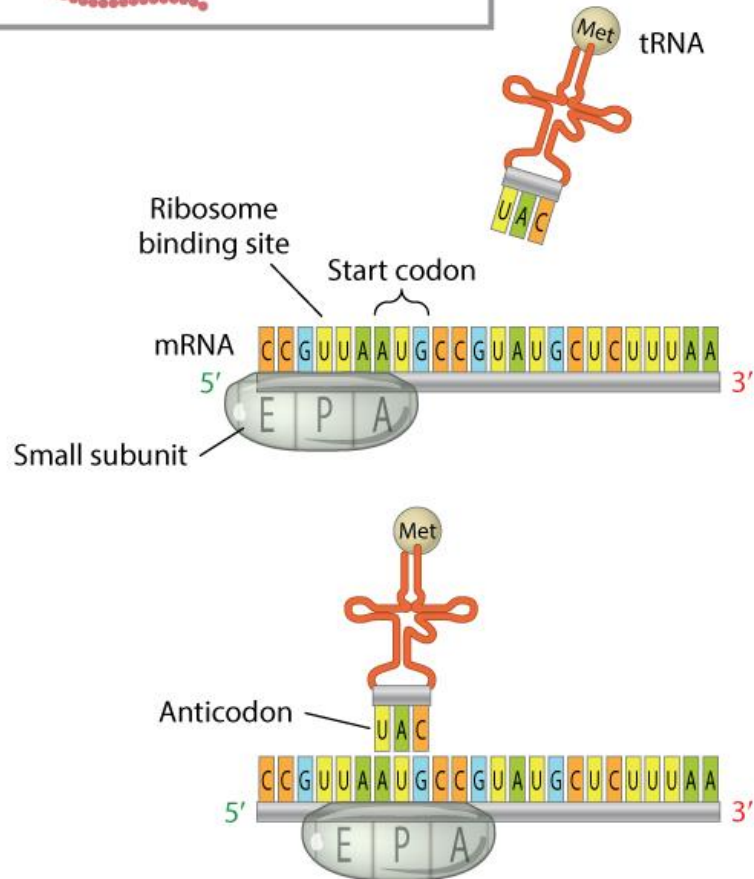
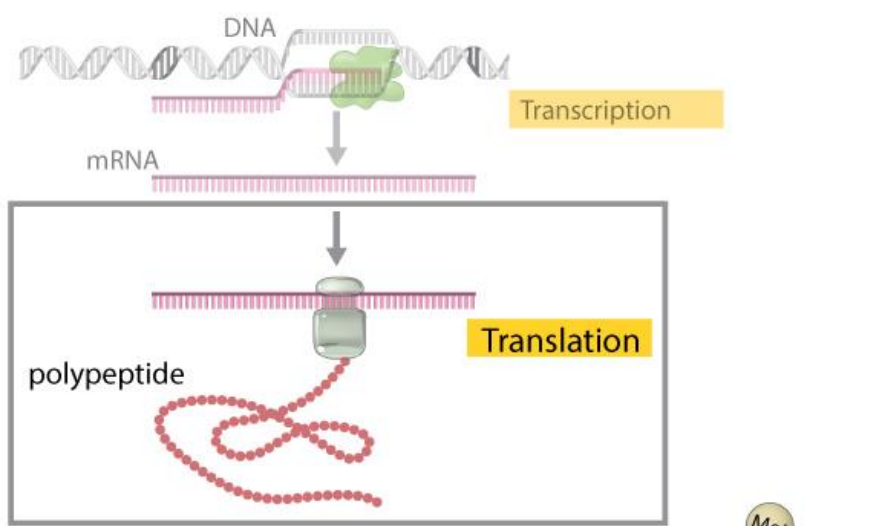
5' -AUG CCU AGG UAC CUA UGA-3'



**Traduzione**

**MET-PRO-ARG-TYR-LEU**

**Proteina**



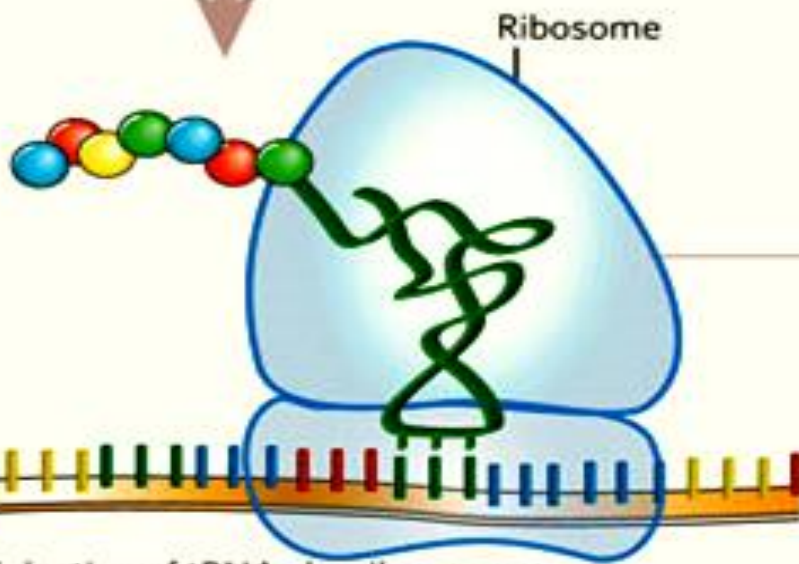
The translation initiation complex. When translation begins, the small subunit of the ribosome and an initiator tRNA molecule assemble on the mRNA transcript. The small subunit of the ribosome has three binding sites: an amino acid site (A), a polypeptide site (P), and an exit site (E). The initiator tRNA molecule carrying the amino acid methionine binds to the AUG start codon of the mRNA transcript at the ribosome's P site where it will become the first amino acid incorporated into the growing polypeptide chain. Here, the initiator tRNA molecule is shown binding after the small ribosomal subunit has assembled on the mRNA; the order in which this occurs is unique to prokaryotic cells. In eukaryotes, the free initiator tRNA first binds the small ribosomal subunit to form a complex. The complex then binds the mRNA transcript, so that the tRNA and the small ribosomal subunit bind the mRNA simultaneously.



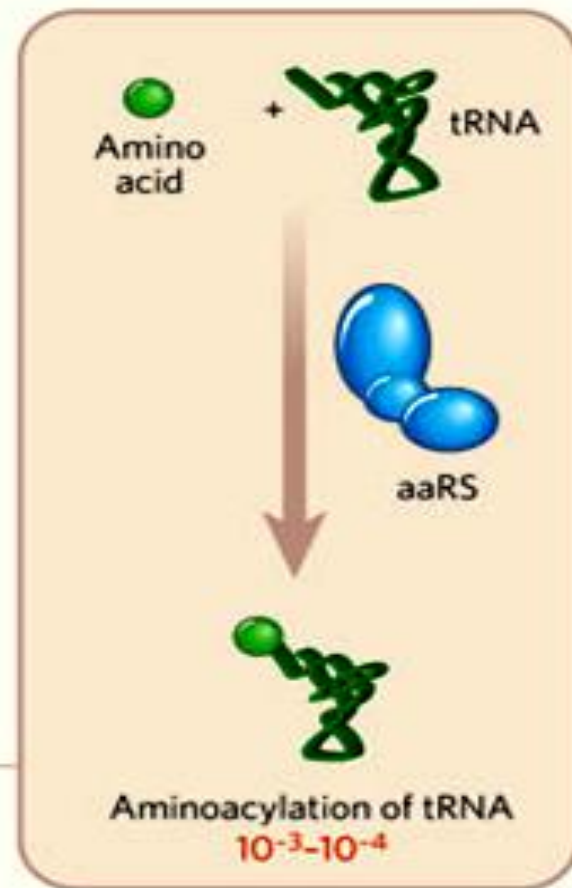
Transcription into mRNA  
 $10^{-4}$



Translation of mRNA  
 $10^{-4}$



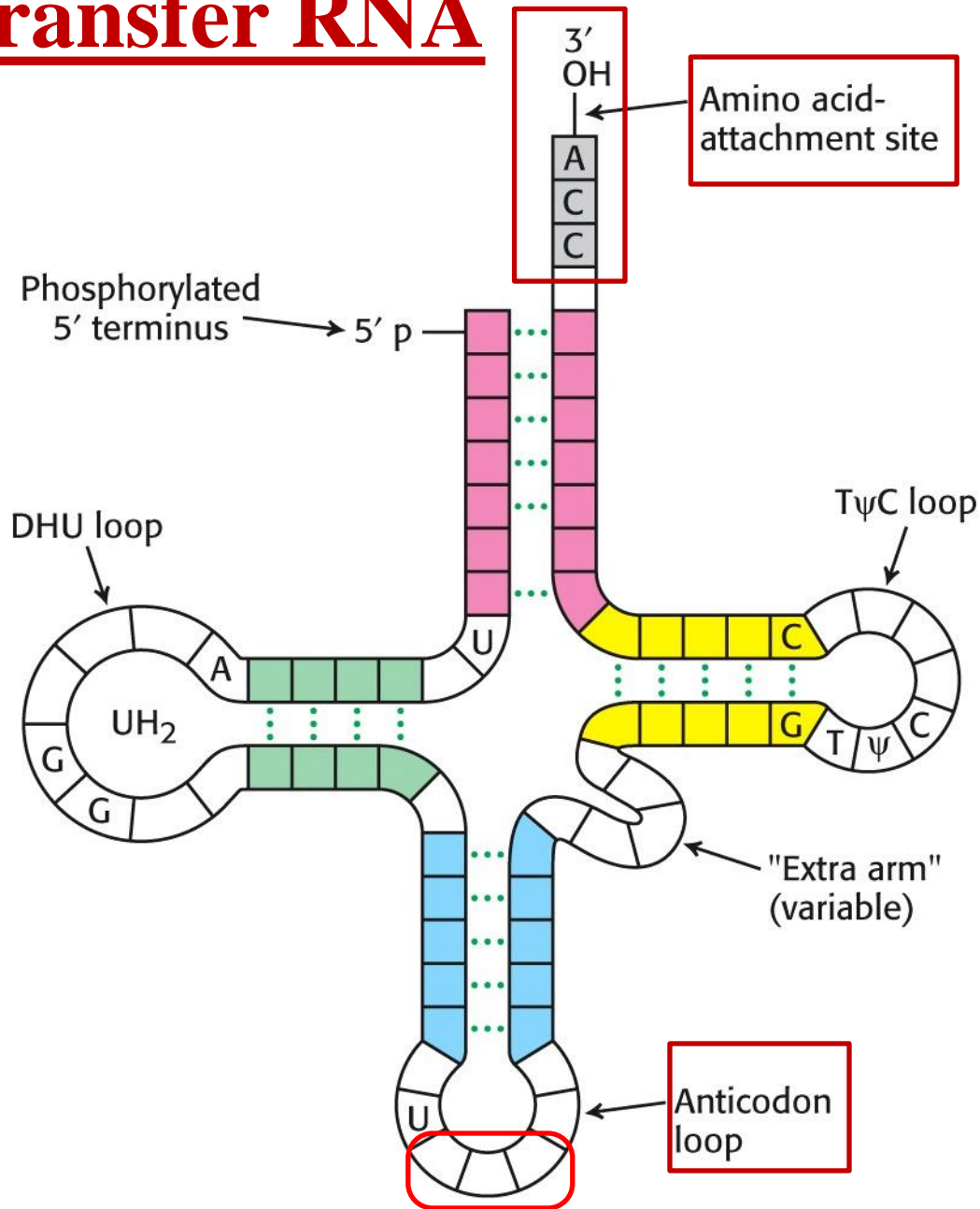
Selection of tRNAs by ribosomes  
 $10^{-3}-10^{-5}$

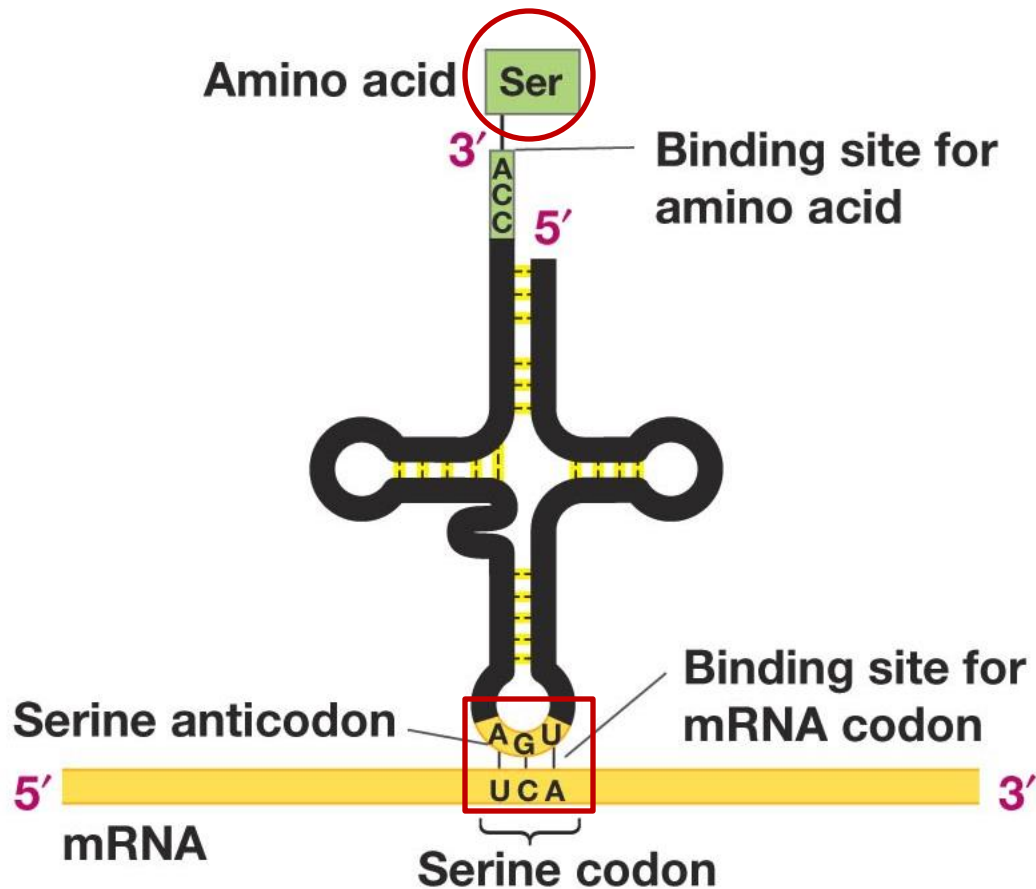


# Componenti della sintesi proteica

- **mRNA (ORF)**
- **Ribosomi**
- **Amino acids (20)**
- **tRNA**
- **Mg<sup>2+</sup>**
- **Amino acyl tRNA Synthetases (I and II)**
- **Fattori di iniziazione, elungazione e terminazione**

# transfer RNA



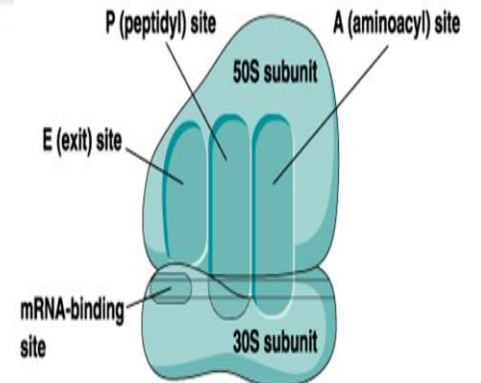
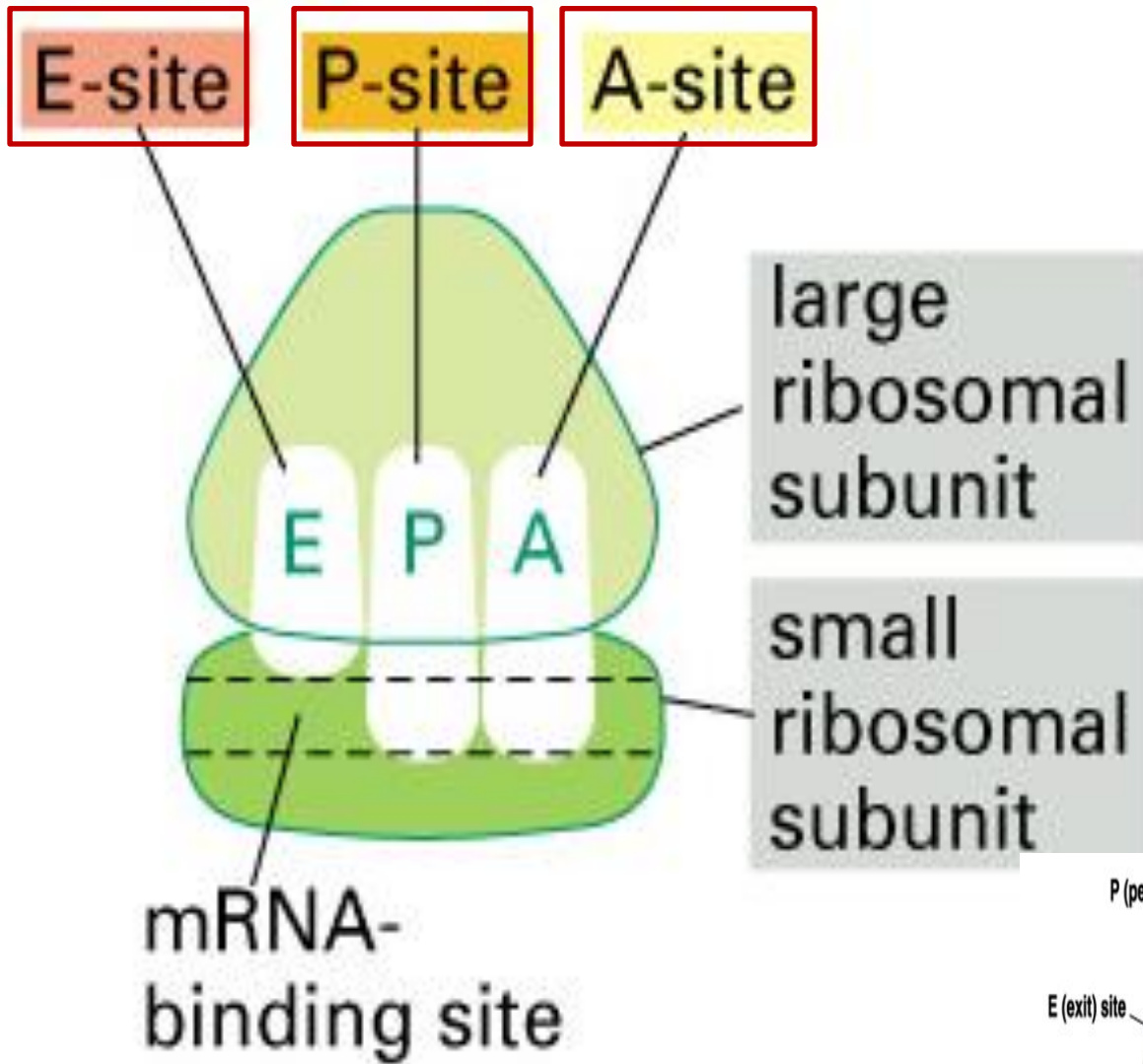


- **3' end of tRNA**: binding site for amino acids.
- **Anticodon loop at opposite end**:
  - Interacts with **complementary codon on mRNA**.



# Ribosomi

- **Ribosomes are the macromolecular complex that directs the synthesis of proteins.**
- **These are the sites of protein synthesis, having**
  - **30% - 40% protein**
  - **60% - 70% RNA (rRNA)**
- **Each Ribosome having 2 ribosomal subunits –larger and smaller.**



**Un ribosoma ha tre tRNA binding sites**

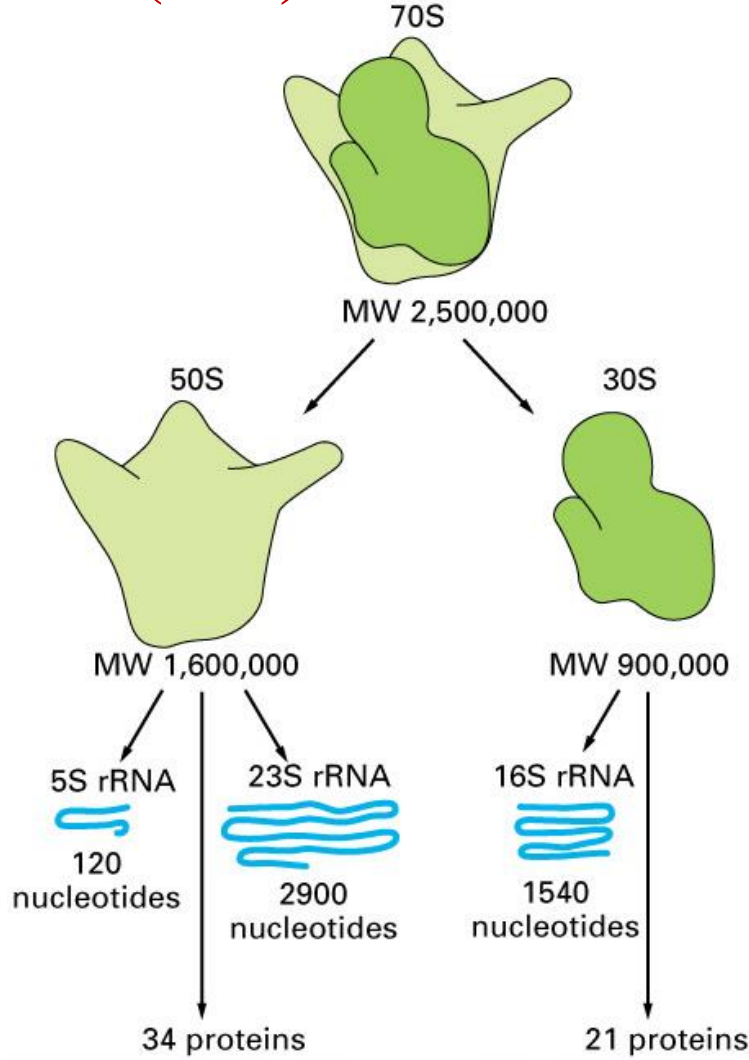
**1) Sito A – binding site per il primo tRNA aminoacilato**

**1) Sito P – binding site per il peptidyl tRNA**

**1) Sito E – binding site per il tRNA scarico**

**Questi siti sono presenti sulla superficie di interfaccia tra la piccola e la grande subunita' del ribosoma.**

# Ribosoma Procariotico (70S)



# Ribosoma Eucariotico (80S)

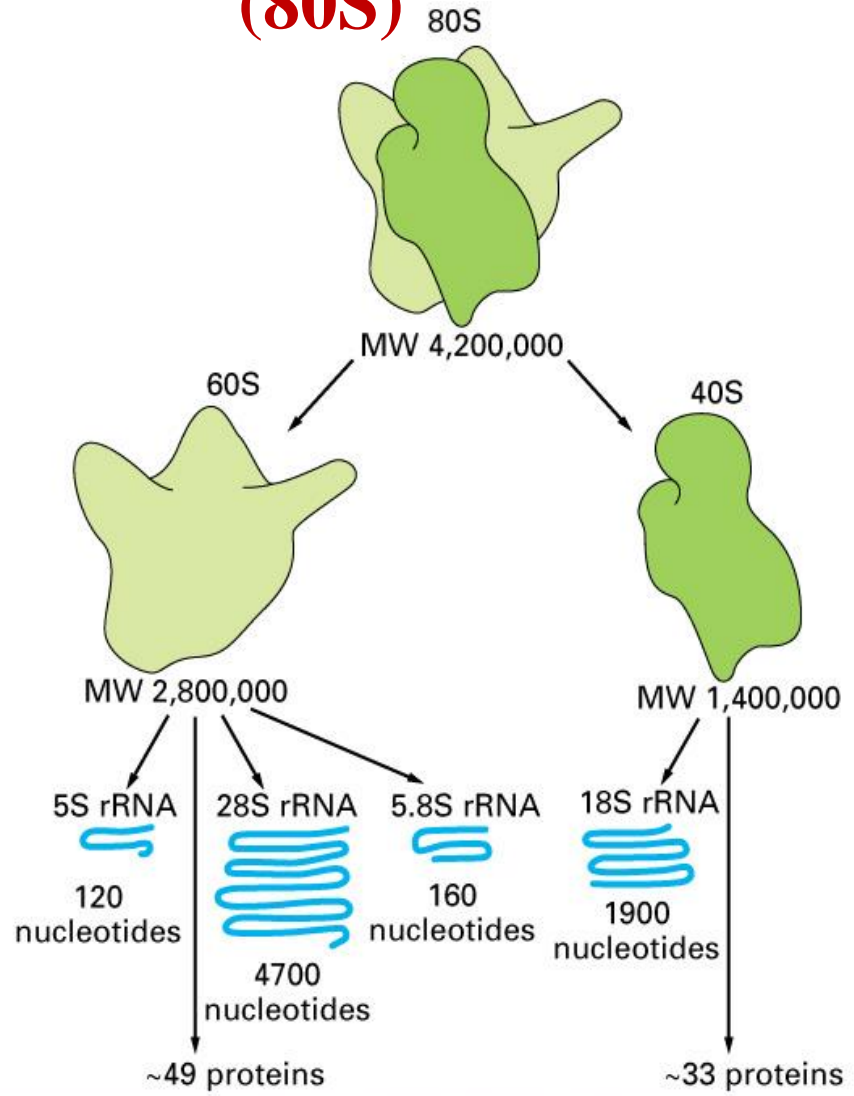
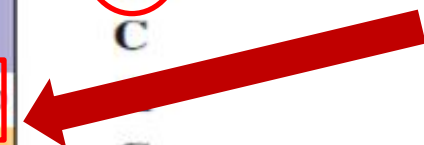


Figure 6-63 part 1 of 2. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th Edition Figure 6-63 part 2 of 2. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th Edition.

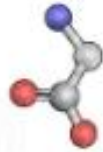
# **Il Codice Genetico**

First position (5' end)	Second position				Third position (3' end)
	U	C	A	G	
U	UUU Phe	UCU Ser	UAU Tyr	UGU Cys	U C G
	UUC	UCC Ser	UAC	UGC Cys	
	UUA Leu	UCA Ser	UAA Stop	UGA Stop	
	UUG Leu	UCG Ser	UAG Stop	UGG Trp	
C	CUU Leu	CCU Pro	CAU His	CGU Arg	U C A G
	CUC Leu	CCC Pro	CAC His	CGC Arg	
	CUA Leu	CCA Pro	CAA Gln	CGA Arg	
	CUG Leu	CCG Pro	CAG Gln	CGG Arg	
A	AUU Ile	ACU Thr	AAU Asn	AGU Ser	U C A G
	AUC Ile	ACC Thr	AAC Asn	AGC Ser	
	AUA Ile	ACA Thr	AAA Lys	AGA Arg	
	AUG Met <sup>b</sup>	ACG Thr	AAG Lys	AGG Arg	
G	GUU Val	GCU Ala	GAU Asp	GGU Gly	U C A G
	GUC Val	GCC Ala	GAC Asp	GGC Gly	
	GUA Val	GCA Ala	GAA Glu	GGA Gly	
	GUG Val	GCG Ala	GAG Glu	GGG Gly	

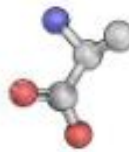
Codoni di stop



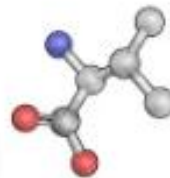
Codone di inizio



glycine (Gly, G)



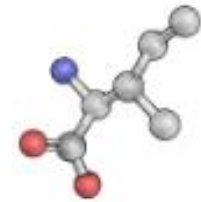
L-alanine (Ala, A)



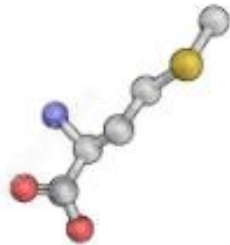
L-valine (Val, V)



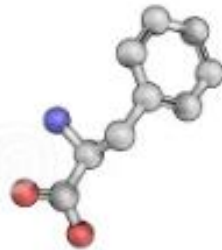
L-leucine (Leu, L)



L-isoleucine (Ile, I)



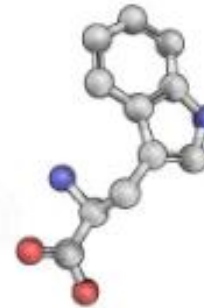
L-methionine (Met, M)



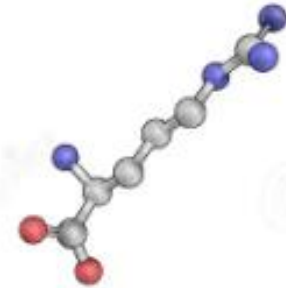
L-phenylalanine (Phe, F)



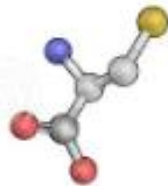
L-tyrosine (Tyr, Y)



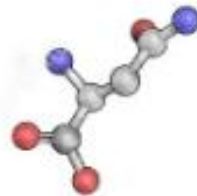
L-tryptophan (Trp, W)



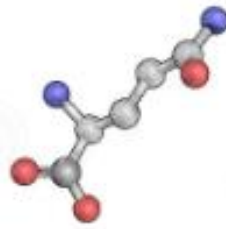
L-arginine (Arg, R)



L-cysteine (Cys, C)



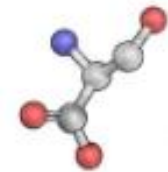
L-asparagine (Asn, N)



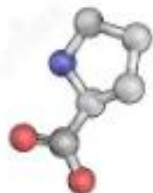
L-glutamine (Gln, Q)



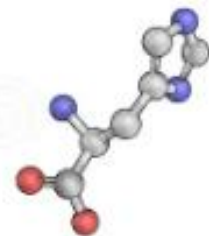
L-threonine (Thr, T)



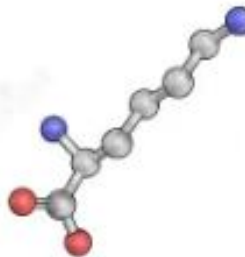
L-serine (Ser, S)



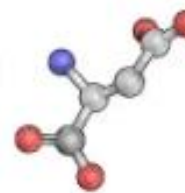
L-proline (Pro, P)



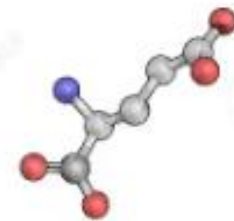
L-histidine (His, H)



L-lysine (Lys, K)



L-aspartic acid (Asp, D)



L-glutamic acid (Glu, E)

# Codice genetico

Nonostante ci siano solo **20** aminoacidi, ci sono **64** possibili codoni.

$$\underline{4} \times \underline{4} \times \underline{4} = 64 \text{ combinazioni possibili}$$

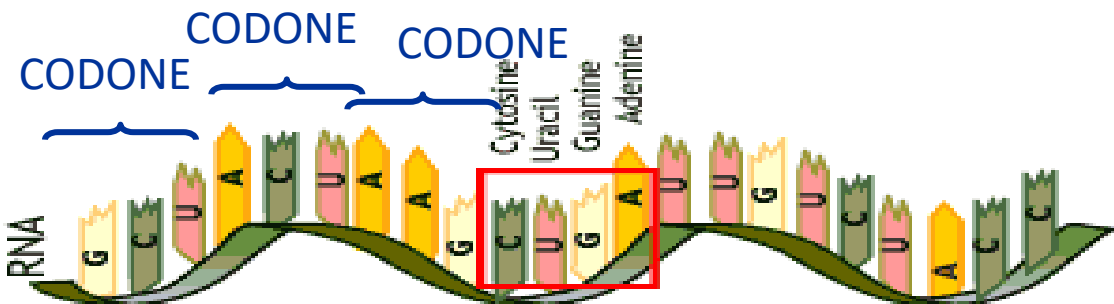
		2nd base in codon				
		U	C	A	G	
1st base in codon	U	Phe Phe Leu Leu	Ser Ser Ser Ser	Tyr Tyr STOP STOP	Cys Cys STOP Trp	U C A G
	C	Leu Leu Leu Leu	Pro Pro Pro Pro	His His Gln Gln	Arg Arg Arg Arg	U C A G
	A	Ile Ile Ile Met	Thr Thr Thr Thr	Asn Asn Lys Lys	Ser Ser Arg Arg	U C A G
	G	Val Val Val Val	Ala Ala Ala Ala	Asp Asp Glu Glu	Gly Gly Gly Gly	U C A G
						3rd base in codon

Primo NUCLEOTIDE

Terzo NUCLEOTIDE

**G G U = Glicina**

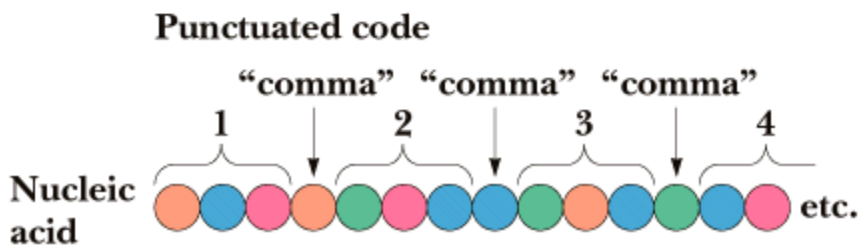
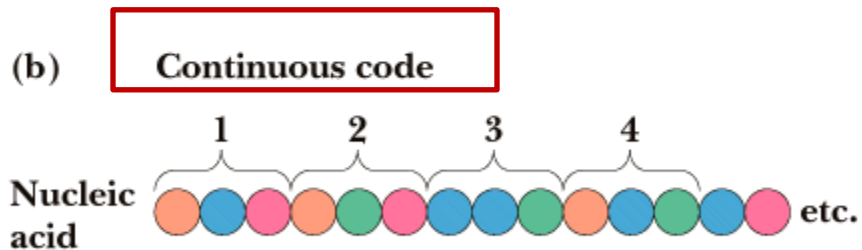
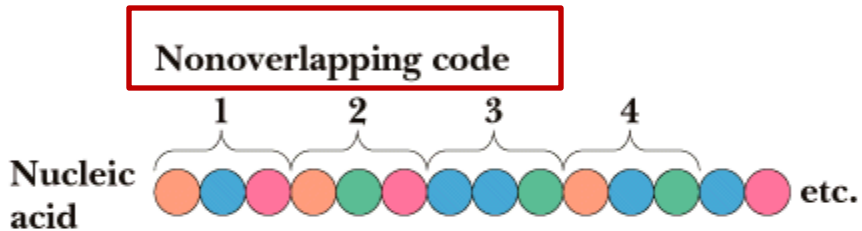
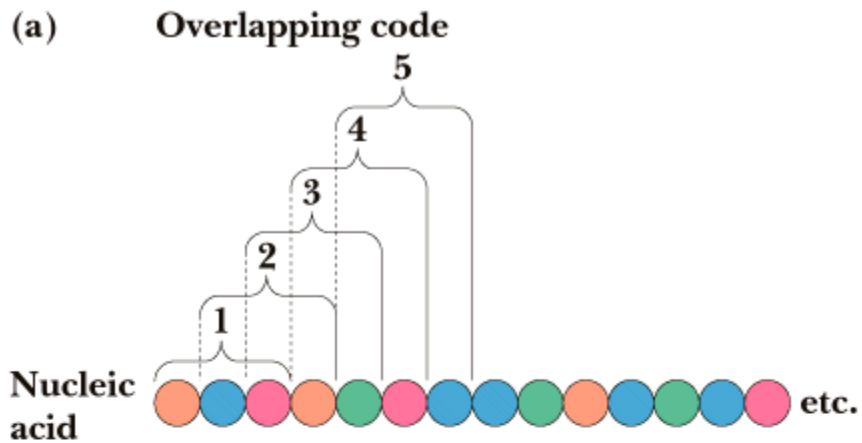
Secondo NUCLEOTIDE



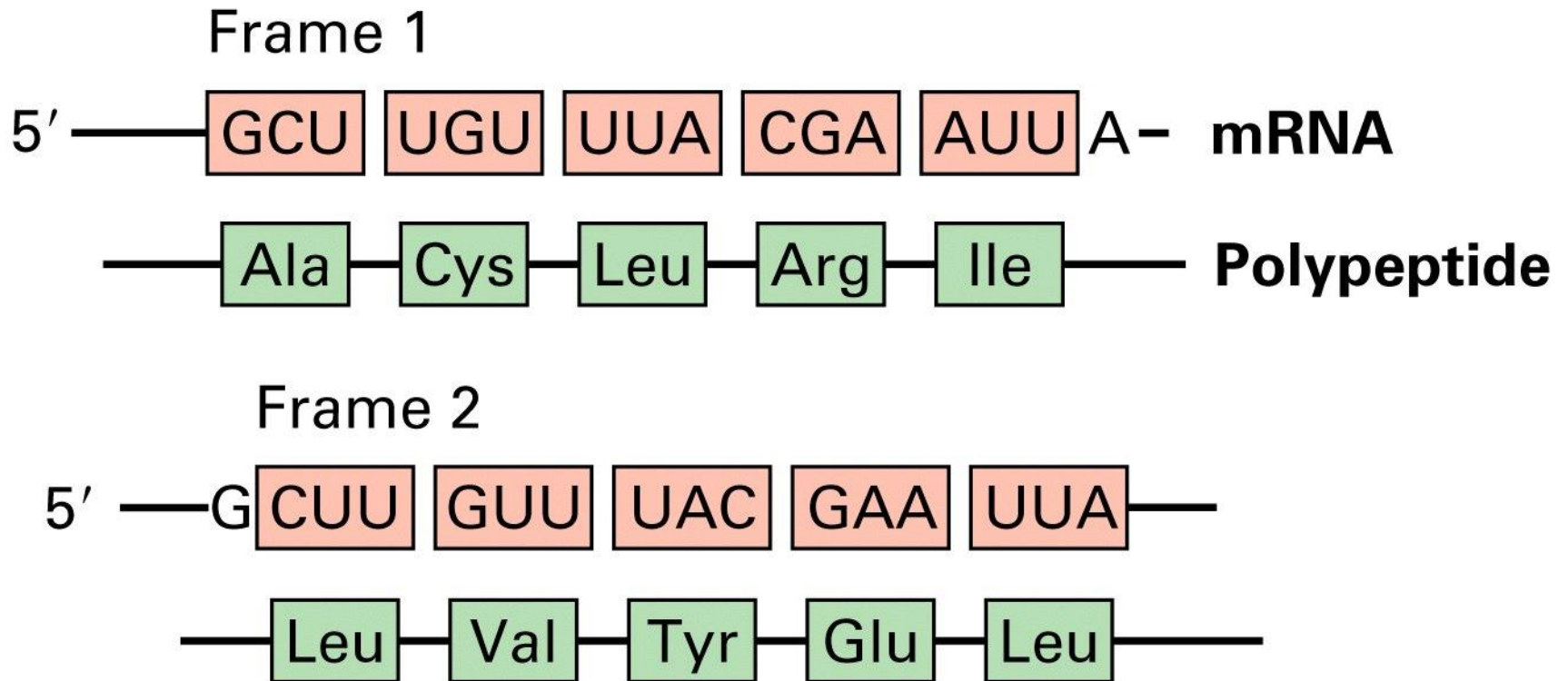


# Characteristics of Genetic Code

- Triplet Codons
- Universal
- Non-overlapping
- Unambiguous
- Degenerate
- Stop or termination or nonsense codons



# Un codice di tre lettere puo' essere letto con vari reading frames



# Alcune eccezioni alla regola

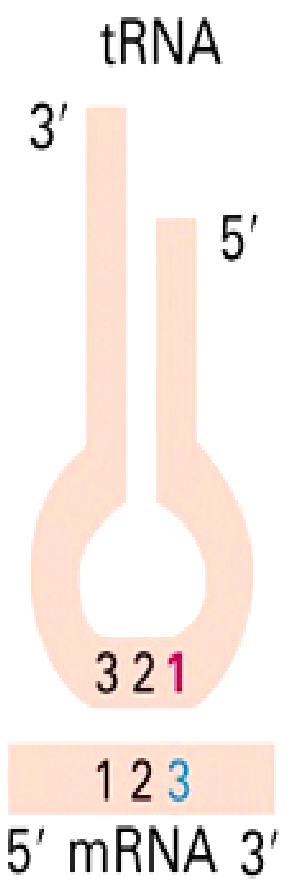
## Known Deviations from the Universal Genetic Code

Codon	Universal Code	Unusual Code*	Occurrence
UGA	Stop	Trp	<i>Mycoplasma, Spiroplasma</i> , mitochondria of many species
CUG	Leu	Thr	Mitochondria in yeasts
UAA, UAG	Stop	Gln	<i>Acetabularia, Tetrahymena, Paramecium</i> , etc.
UGA	Stop	Cys	<i>Euplotes</i>

## Degeneracy of the Genetic Code

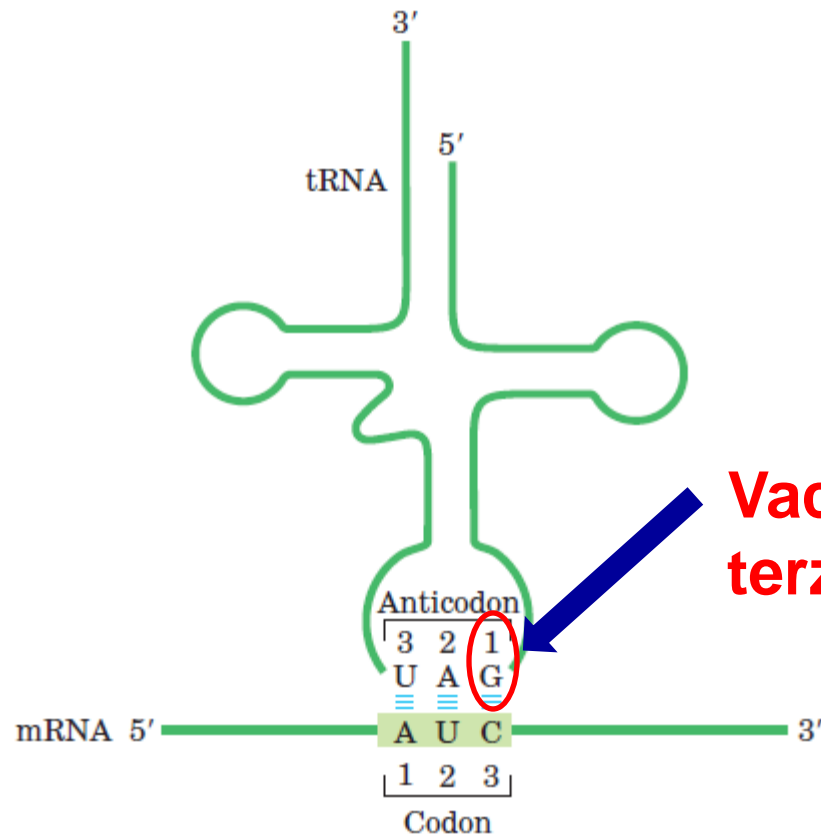
<i>Amino acid</i>	<i>Number of codons</i>	<i>Amino acid</i>	<i>Number of codons</i>
Met	1	Tyr	2
Trp	1	Ile	3
Asn	2	Ala	4
Asp	2	Gly	4
Cys	2	Pro	4
Gln	2	Thr	4
Glu	2	Val	4
His	2	Arg	6
Lys	2	Leu	6
Phe	2	Ser	6

# La coppia di basi nella terza posizioni del codone puo' vacillare

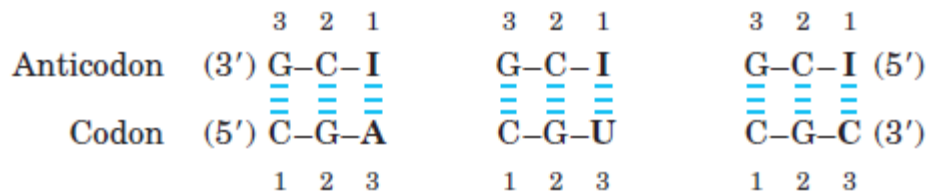


If these bases are in **first**, or wobble, position of anticodon

C	A	G	U	I	
G	U	C	A	C	then the tRNA may recognize codons in mRNA having these bases in <b>third</b> position
		U	G	A	
				U	

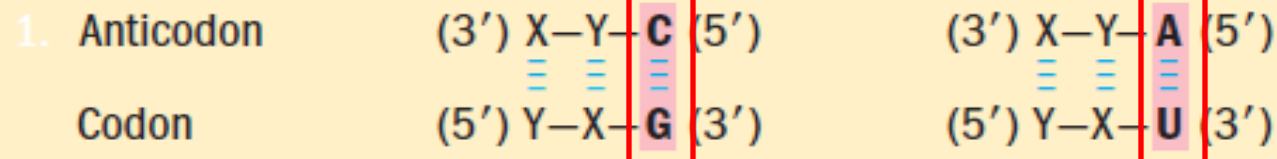


**Vacillamento della terza base**

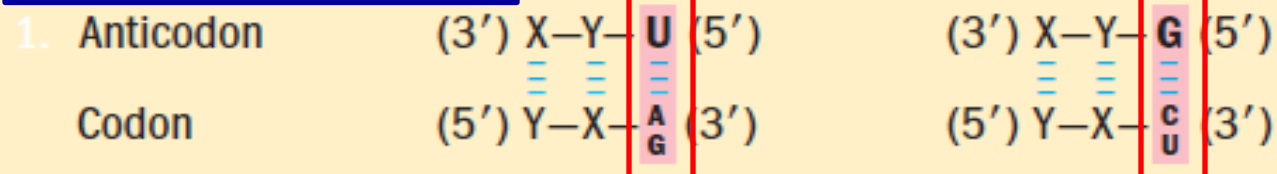


## How the Wobble Base of the Anticodon Determines the Number of Codons a tRNA Can Recognize

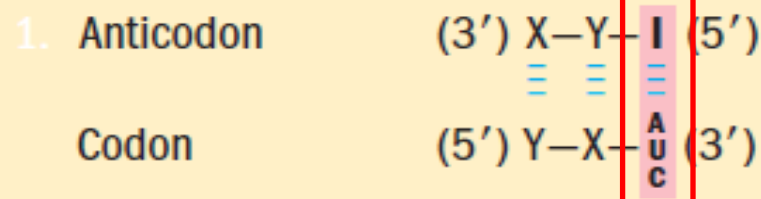
### 1. One codon recognized:



### 2. Two codons recognized:



### 3. Three codons recognized:



Note: X and Y denote bases complementary to and capable of strong Watson-Crick base pairing with X' and Y', respectively. Wobble bases—in the 3' position of codons and 5' position of anticodons—are shaded in pink.



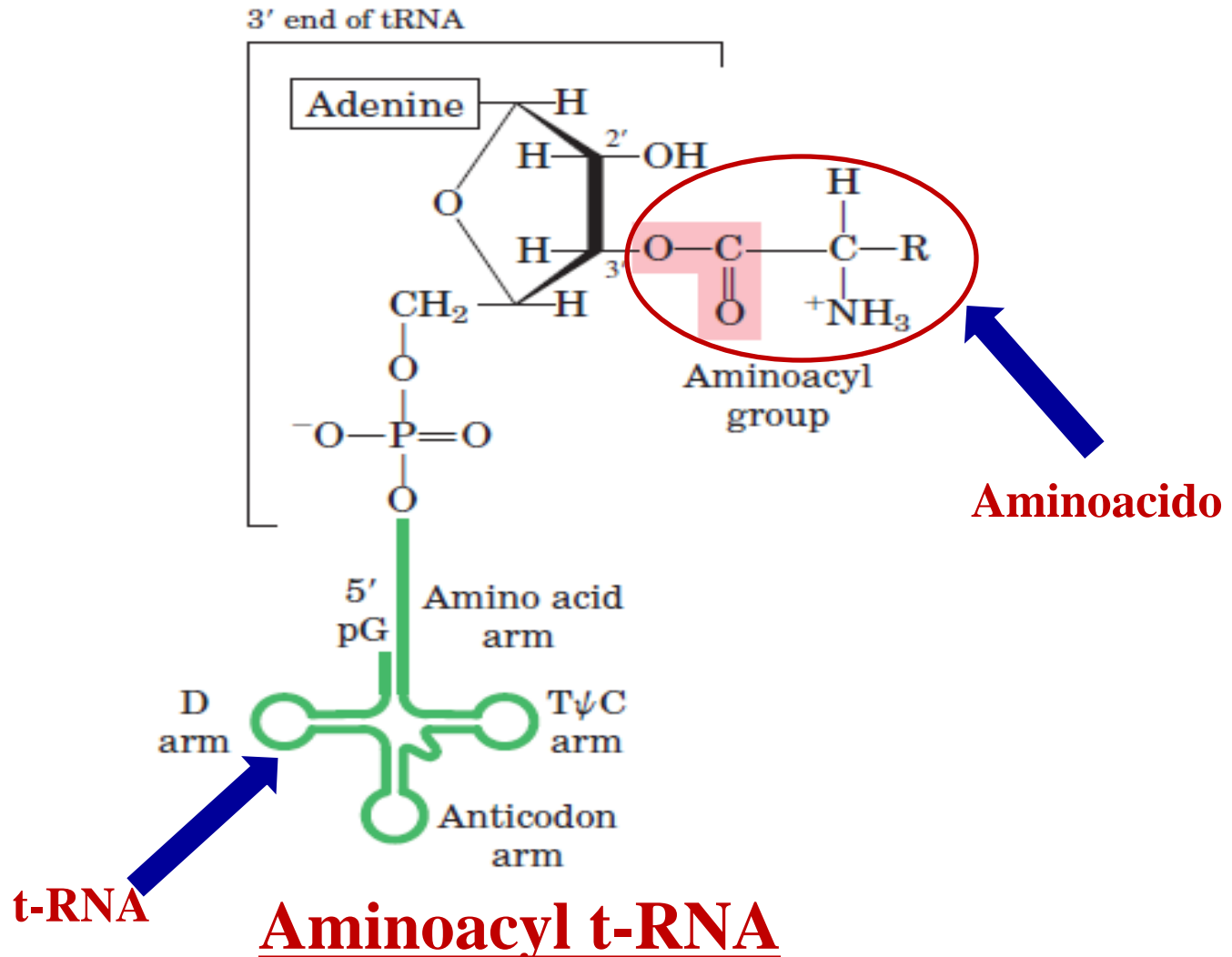
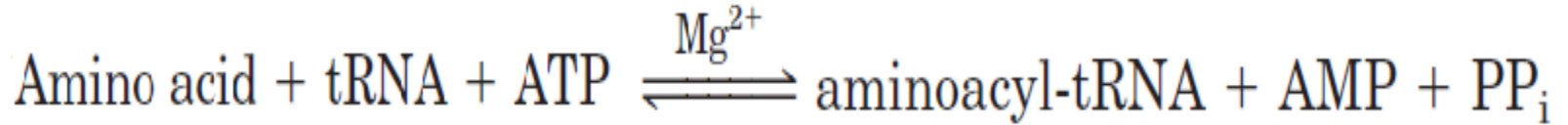
GCA	AGA								
GCC	AGG								
GCG	CGA						GGA		
GCU	CGC						GGC		AUA
	CGG	GAC	AAC	UGC	GAA	CAA	GGG	CAC	AUC
	CGU	GAU	AAU	UGU	GAG	CAG	GGU	CAU	AUU
Ala	Arg	Asp	Asn	Cys	Glu	Gln	Gly	His	Ile
A	R	D	N	C	E	Q	G	H	I
UUA					AGC				
UUG					AGU				
CUA				CCA	UCA	ACA			GUA
CUC				CCC	UCC	ACC			GUC
CUG	AAA		UUC	CCG	UCG	ACG		UAC	GUG
CUU	AAG	AUG	UUU	CCU	UCU	ACU	UGG	UAU	GUU
Leu	Lys	Met	Phe	Pro	Ser	Thr	Trp	Tyr	Val
L	K	M	F	P	S	T	W	Y	V
									UAA
									UAG
									UGA
									stop

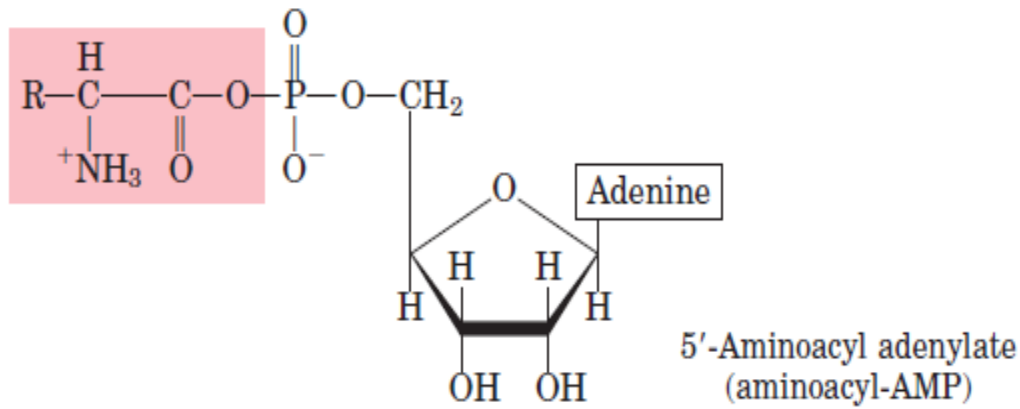
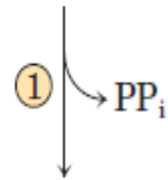
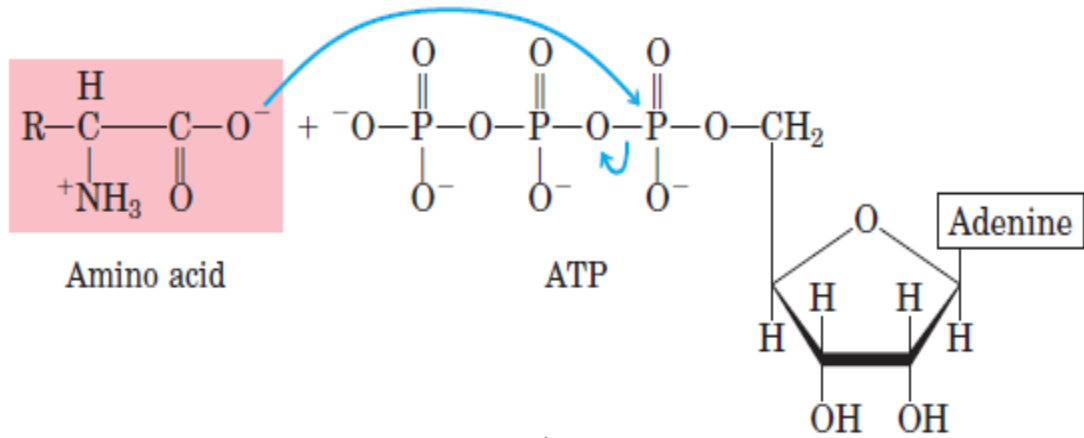
Figure 6–50. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th Edition.

## Components Required for the Five Major Stages of Protein Synthesis in *E. coli*

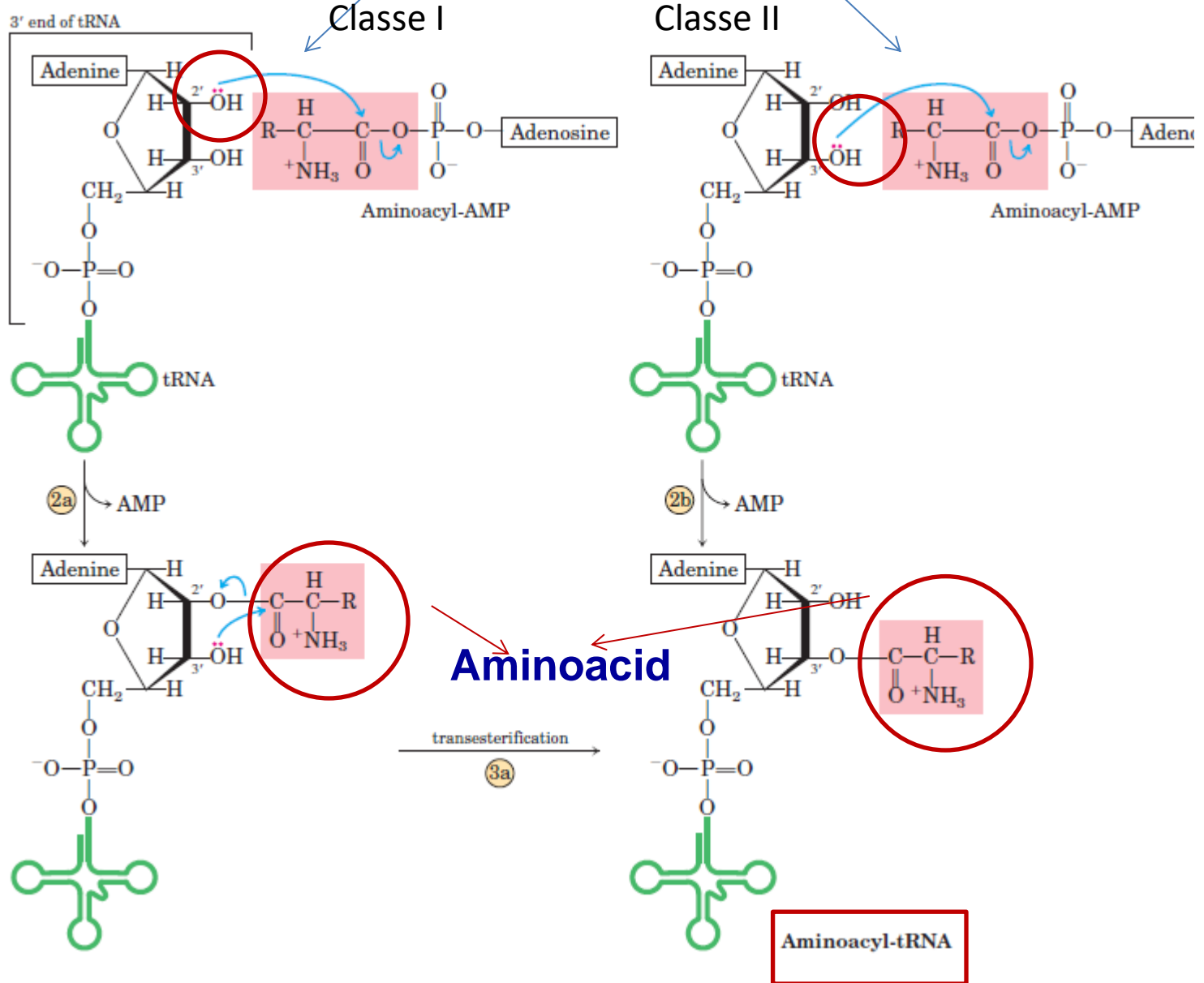
<i>Stage</i>	<i>Essential components</i>
1. Activation of amino acids	20 amino acids 20 aminoacyl-tRNA synthetases 32 or more tRNAs ATP $Mg^{2+}$
2. Initiation	mRNA N-Formylmethionyl-tRNA <sup>fmet</sup> Initiation codon in mRNA (AUG) 30S ribosomal subunit 50S ribosomal subunit Initiation factors (IF-1, IF-2, IF-3) GTP $Mg^{2+}$
3. Elongation	Functional 70S ribosome (initiation complex) Aminoacyl-tRNAs specified by codons Elongation factors (EF-Tu, EF-Ts, EF-G) GTP $Mg^{2+}$
4. Termination and release	Termination codon in mRNA Release factors (RF-1, RF-2, RF-3)
5. Folding and posttranslational processing	Specific enzymes, cofactors, and other components for removal of initiating residues and signal sequences, additional proteolytic processing, modification of terminal residues, and attachment of phosphate, methyl, carboxyl, carbohydrate, or prosthetic groups

# Attivazione degli aminoacidi





# Uno dei ~20 aminoacyl-tRNA sintetasi



## Amino-acyl tRNA synthetases:

One synthetase for each amino acid a single synthetase may recognize multiple tRNAs or the same amino acid

Two classes of synthetases

Class I - monomeric, acylates the 2'-OH on the terminal ribose

Arg, Cys , Gln, Glu, Ile, Leu, Met, Trp Tyr, Val

Class II - dimeric, acylates the 3'-OH on the terminal ribose

Ala, Asn, Asp, Gly, His, Lys, Phe, Ser, Pro, Thr

# La selezione del codone di inizio AUG e' determinato dai nucleotidi vicini

<u>Shine-Dalgarno</u>		<u>Codone di inizio</u>		
5'			3'	
AGCAC	GAGGGG	AAAUCUGA	AUGGAACGCUAC	<i>E. coli trpA</i>
UUUGG	AUGGAG	UGAAA	CGAUGGCGAUUGCA	<i>E. coli araB</i>
GGUAA	CCAGGU	AACA	CCAUGCGAGUGUUG	<i>E. coli thrA</i>
CAAUU	CAGGGUGG	UGA	AUGUGAAACCA	<i>E. coli lacI</i>
AAUCU	UGGAGG	CUUUUU	UAUGGUUCGUUCU	$\phi$ X174 phage A protein
UAACU	AAGGA	UGAA	AUGUCUAAGACA	Q $\beta$ phage replicase
UCCU	AGGAGGU	UUGACC	CUAUGCGAGCUUUU	R17 phage A protein
AUGUA	CUAAGGAGGU	UGUA	AUGGAACAA	$\lambda$ phage <i>cro</i>
	Pairs with 16S rRNA	Pairs with initiator tRNA		

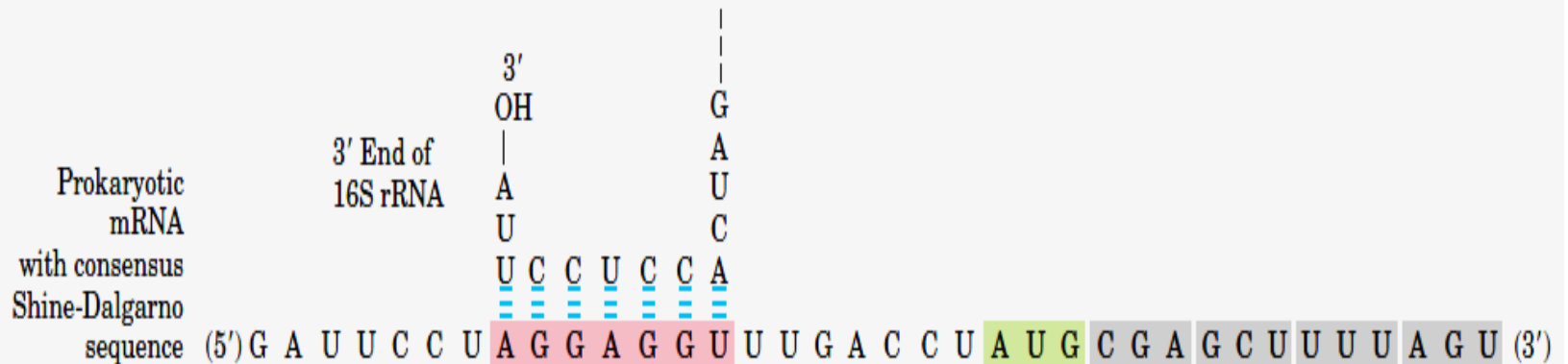
**Negli eucarioti: ACCAUGG (Sequenza di Kozak)**

*E. coli trpA* (5') A G C A C G A G G G G A A A U C U G A U G G A A C G C U A C (3')  
*E. coli araB* U U U G G A U G G A G U G A A A C G A U G G C G A U U G C A  
*E. coli lacI* C A A U U C A G G G U G G U G A A U G U G A A A C C A G U A  
 $\phi$ X174 phage A protein A A U C U U G G A G G C U U U U U U A U G G U U C G U U C U  
 $\lambda$  phage *cro* A U G U A C U A A G G A G G U U G U A U G G A A C A A C G C

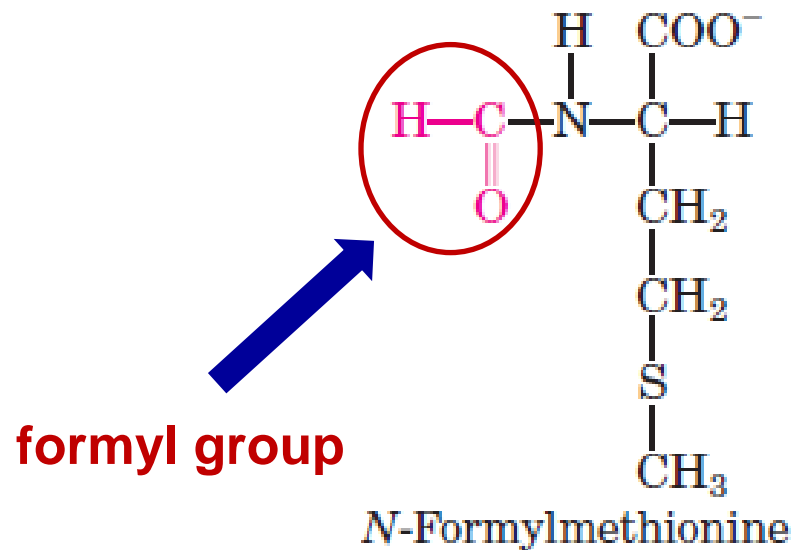
Shine-Dalgarno sequence;  
pairs with 16S rRNA

Initiation codon;  
pairs with fMet-tRNA<sup>fMet</sup>

(a)





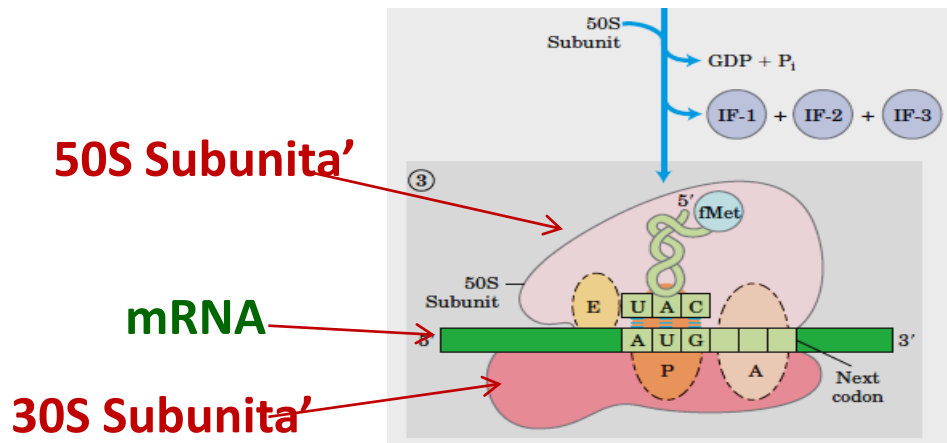
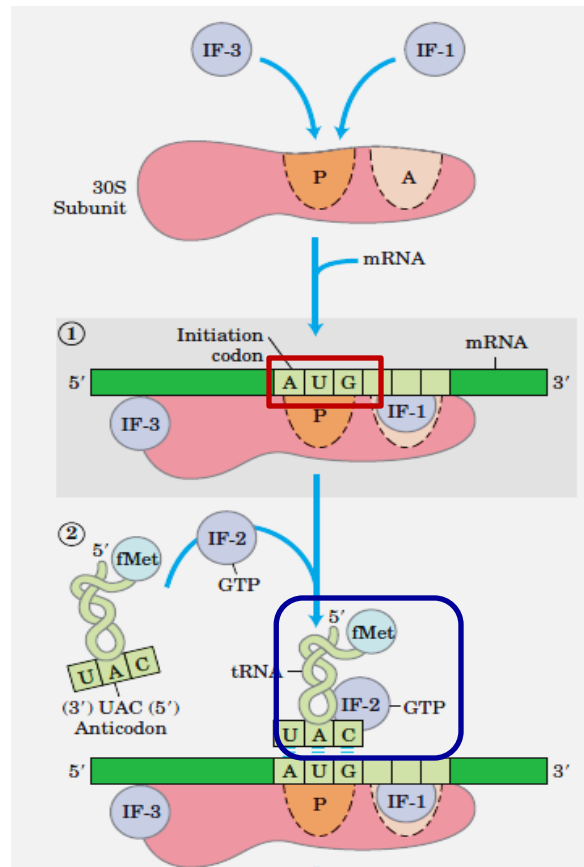


## Protein Factors Required for Initiation of Translation in Bacterial and Eukaryotic Cells

<i>Factor</i>	<i>Function</i>
<b>Bacterial</b>	
IF-1	Prevents premature binding of tRNAs to A site
IF-2	Facilitates binding of fMet-tRNA <sup>fMet</sup> to 30S ribosomal subunit
IF-3	Binds to 30S subunit; prevents premature association of 50S subunit; enhances specificity of P site for fMet-tRNA <sup>fMet</sup>
<b>Eukaryotic*</b>	
eIF2	Facilitates binding of initiating Met-tRNA <sup>Met</sup> to 40S ribosomal subunit
eIF2B, eIF3	First factors to bind 40S subunit; facilitate subsequent steps
eIF4A	RNA helicase activity removes secondary structure in the mRNA to permit binding to 40S subunit; part of the eIF4F complex
eIF4B	Binds to mRNA; facilitates scanning of mRNA to locate the first AUG
eIF4E	Binds to the 5' cap of mRNA; part of the eIF4F complex
eIF4G	Binds to eIF4E and to poly(A) binding protein (PAB); part of the eIF4F complex
eIF5	Promotes dissociation of several other initiation factors from 40S subunit as a prelude to association of 60S subunit to form 80S initiation complex
eIF6	Facilitates dissociation of inactive 80S ribosome into 40S and 60S subunits

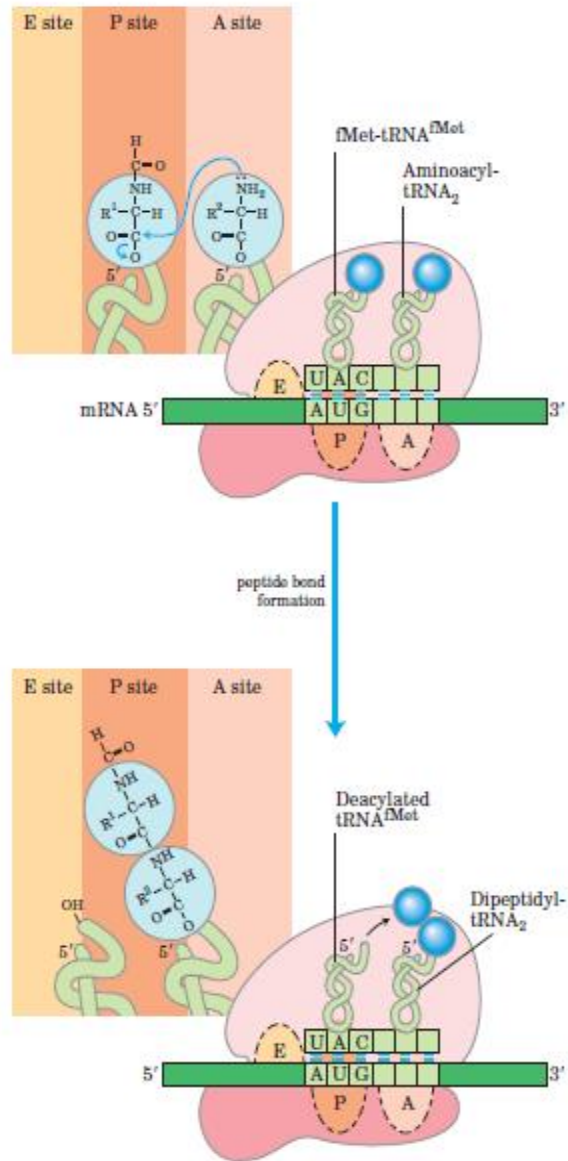
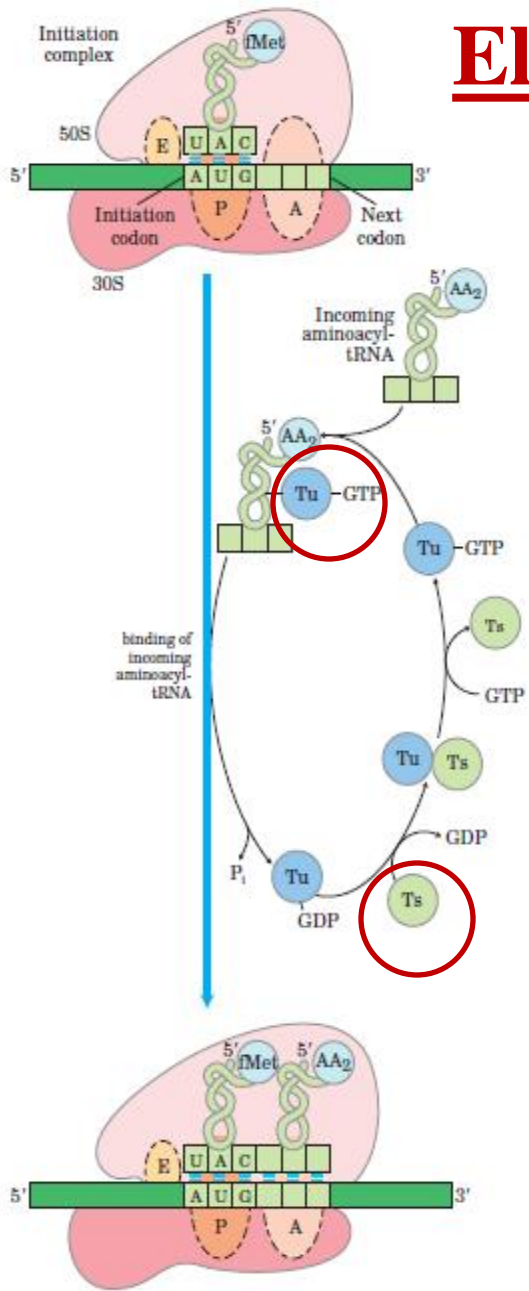
\*The prefix "e" identifies these as eukaryotic factors.

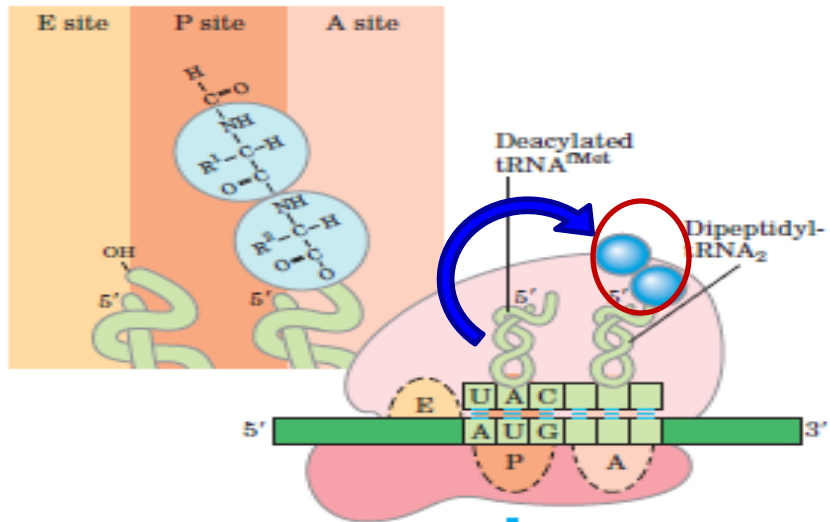
# Iniziazione



**Complesso di Iniziazione 70S**

# Elongazione



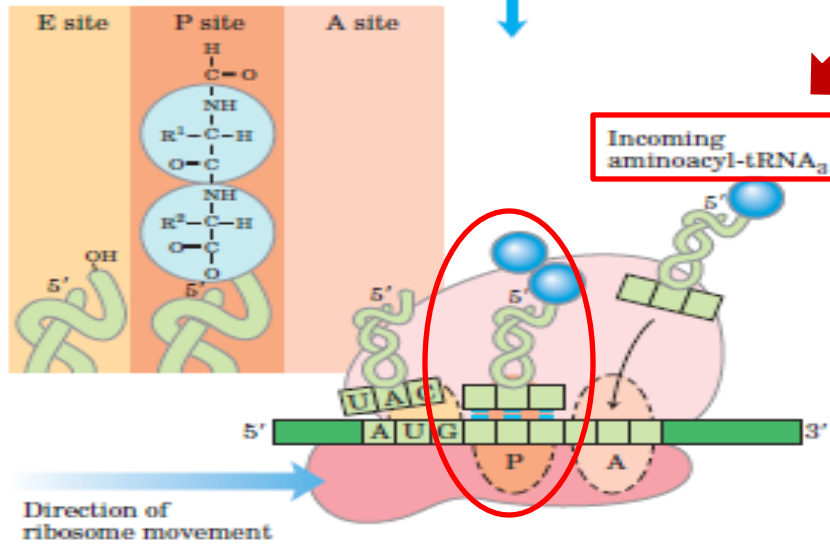


## Traslocazione

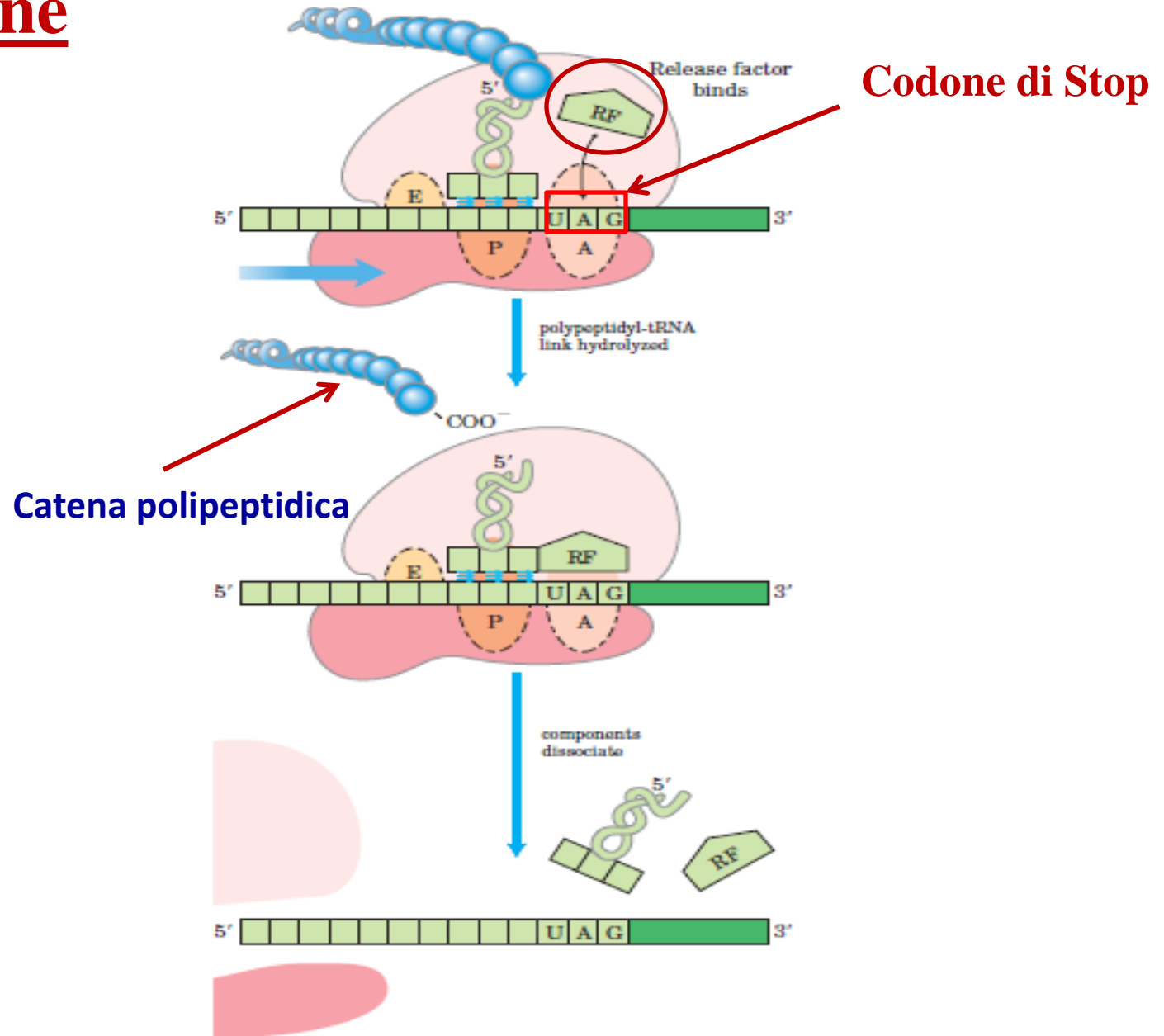
translocation

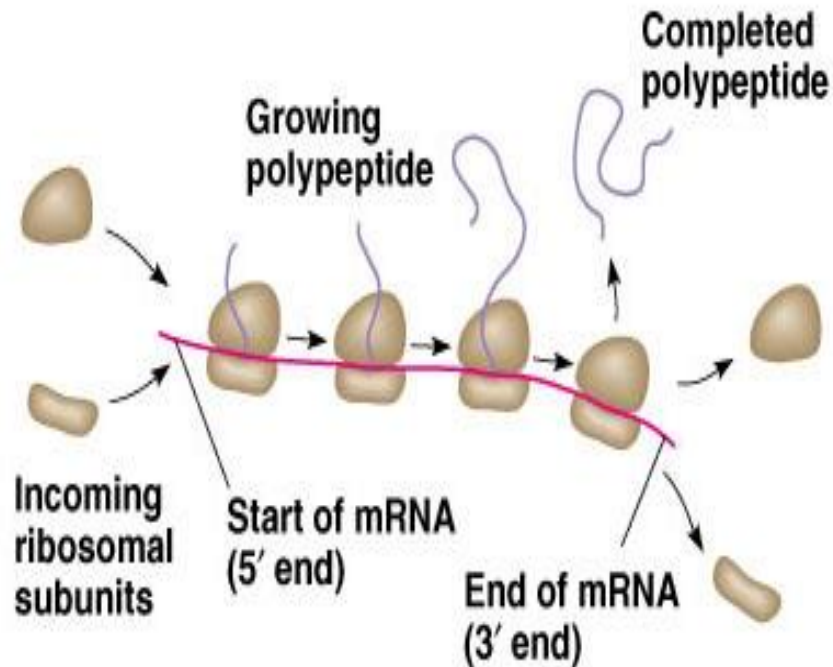
EF-G + GTP

EF-G + GDP + P<sub>i</sub>

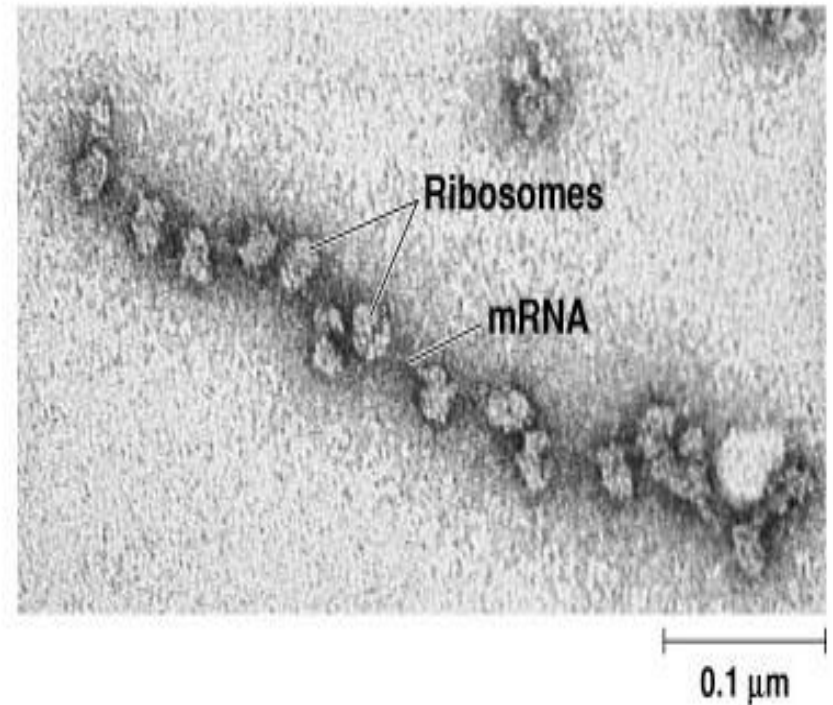


# Terminazione

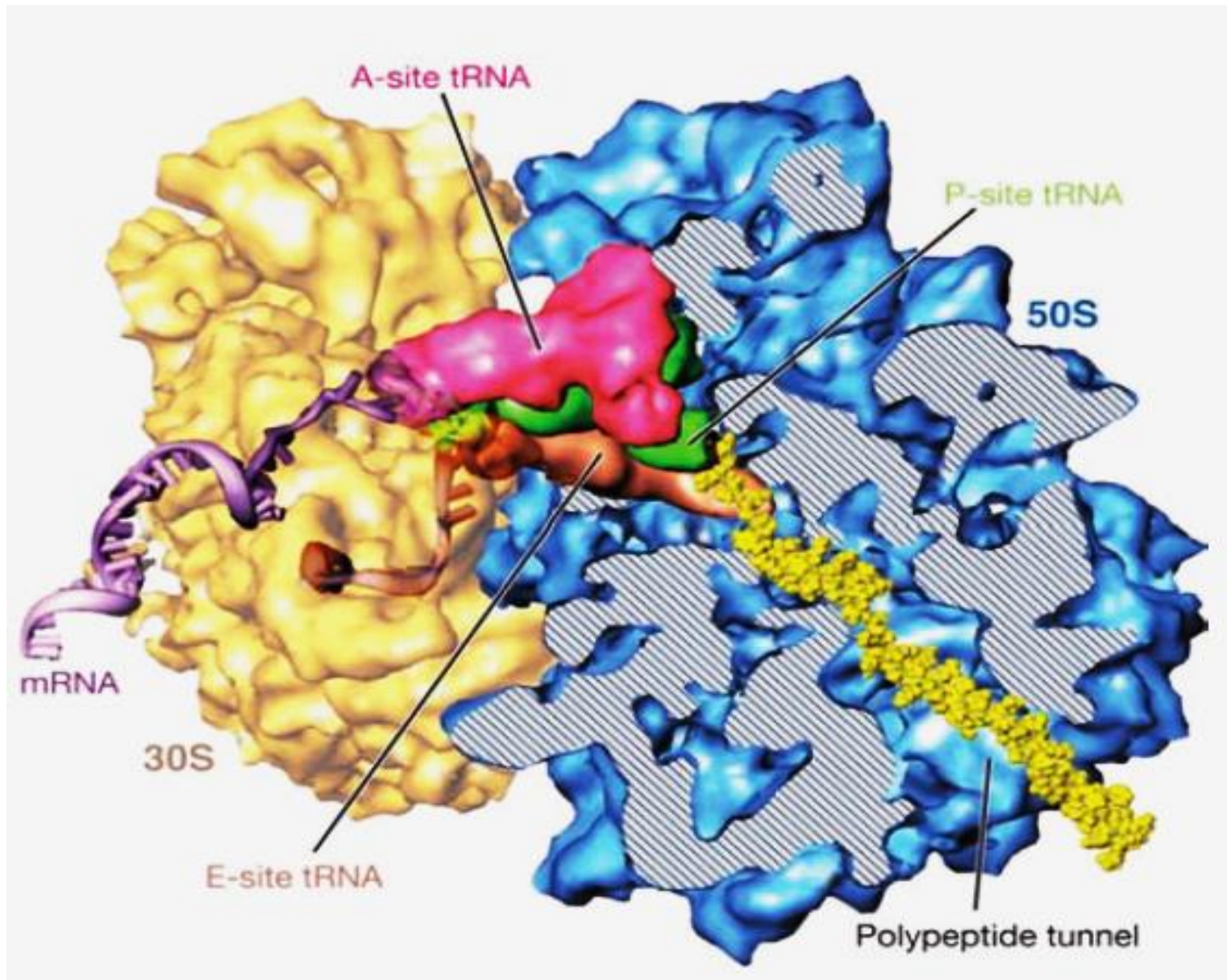




(a) An mRNA molecule is generally translated simultaneously by several ribosomes in clusters called polyribosomes.



(b) This micrograph shows a large polyribosome in a prokaryotic cell (TEM).



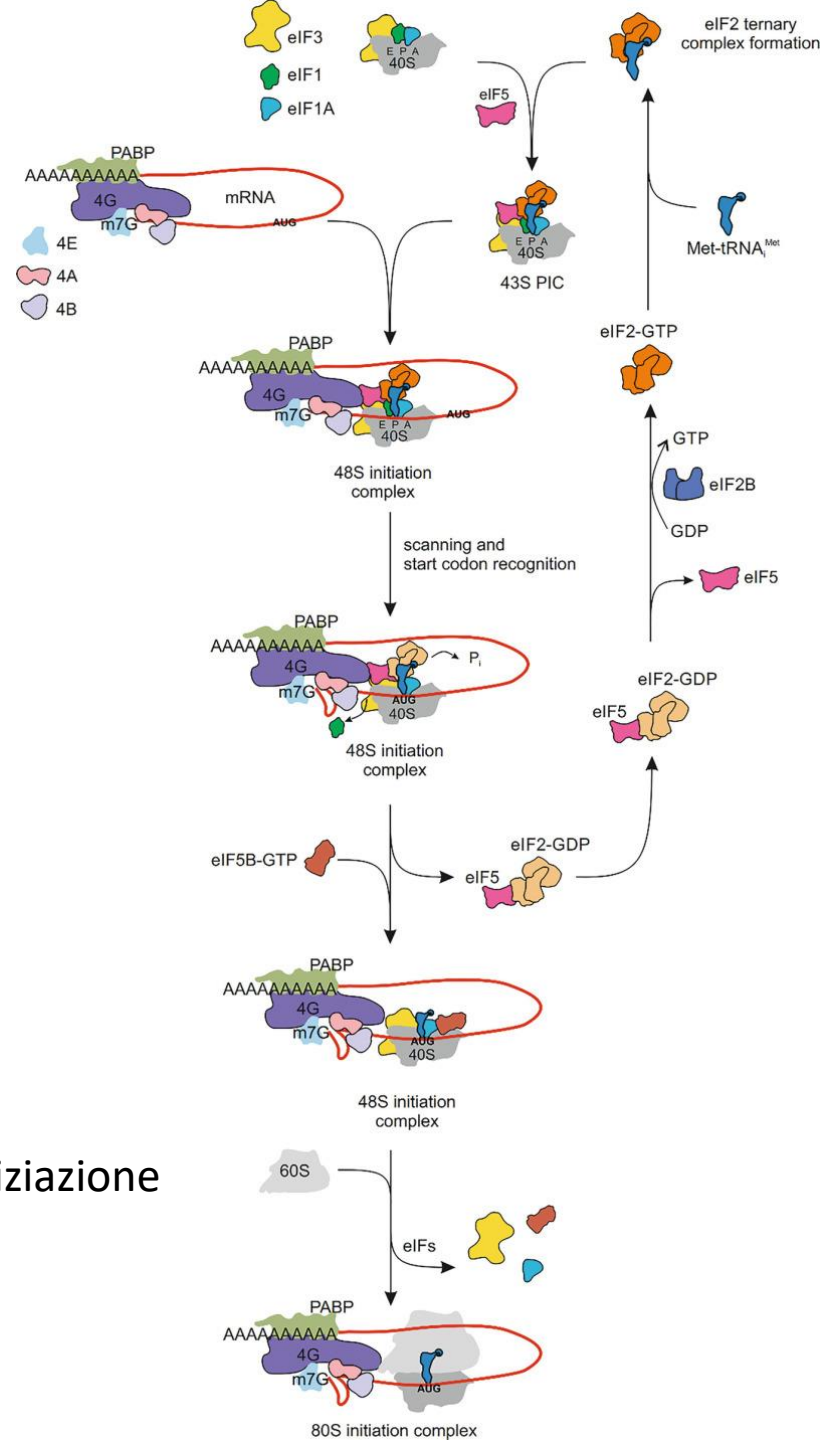


# **SINTESI PROTEICA NEGLI EUCARIOTI**

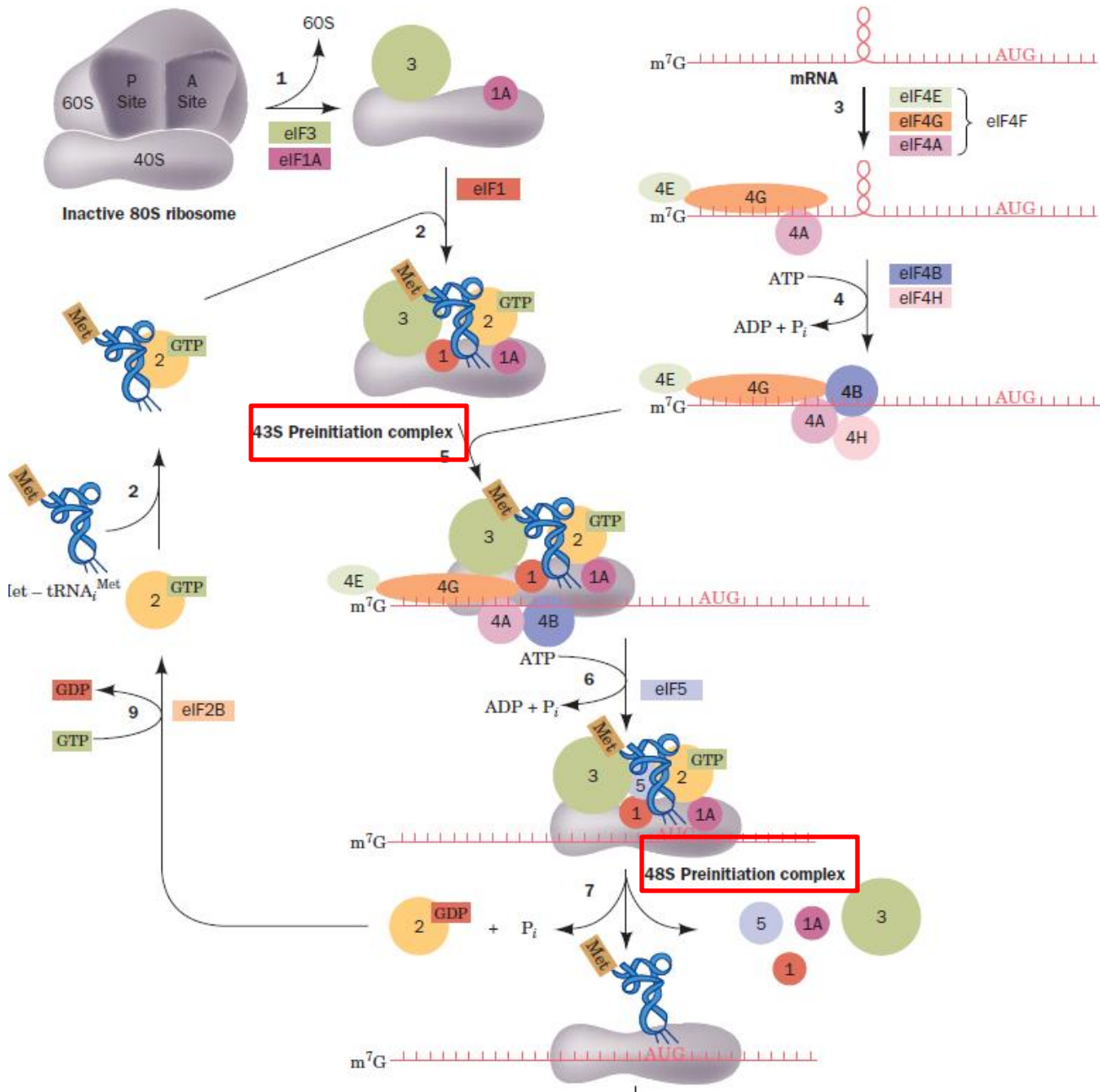
**La traduzione eucariotica e' simile al processo procariotico ma e' molto piu' complicate (piu fattori coinvolti).**

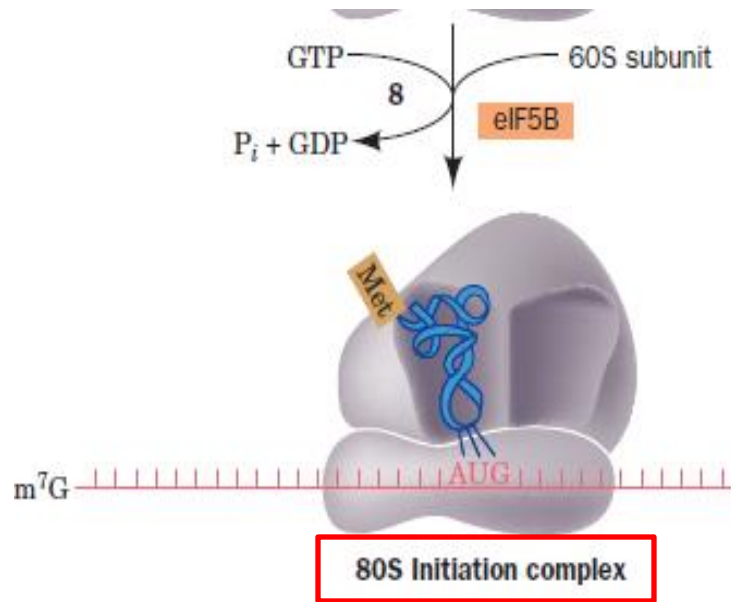
**Come nei procarioti avviene in 4 fasi principali:**

- 1). Attivazione degli aminoacidi - Simile**
- 2). Iniziazione – Simile ma piu complessa**
- 3). Elongazione – Simile**
- 4). Terminazione - Simile ma piu semplice che nei procarioti, con la necessita' di solo un **Releasing Factor (RF)**.**



PIC: complesso di pre-iniziazione





**L'elongazione e la fase di terminazione negli eucarioti e' molto simile a quella dei procarioti eccetto che solo un **eRF** (o un) **TF** e' sufficiente per mediare la terminazione**

Although methionine (Met) is the first amino acid incorporated into any new protein, it is not always the first amino acid in mature proteins—in many proteins, methionine is removed after translation. In fact, if a large number of proteins are sequenced and compared with their known gene sequences, methionine (or formylmethionine) occurs at the **N-terminus** of all of them. However, not all amino acids are equally likely to occur second in the chain, and the second amino acid influences whether the initial methionine is enzymatically removed. For example, many proteins begin with methionine followed by alanine. In both prokaryotes and eukaryotes, these proteins have the methionine removed, so that alanine becomes the **N-terminal** amino acid (Table 1). However, if the second amino acid is lysine, which is also frequently the case, methionine is not removed (at least in the sample proteins that have been studied thus far). These proteins therefore begin with methionine followed by lysine (Flinta *et al.*, 1986).

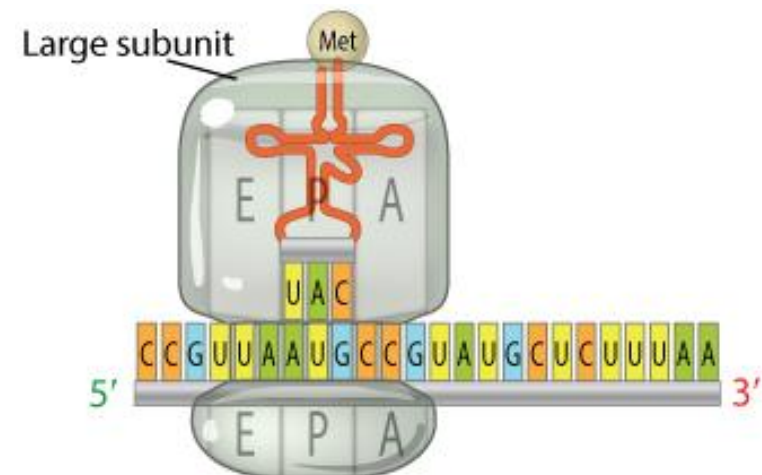
Table 1 shows the N-terminal sequences of proteins in prokaryotes and eukaryotes, based on a sample of 170 prokaryotic and 120 eukaryotic proteins (Flinta *et al.*, 1986). In the table, M represents methionine, A represents alanine, K represents lysine, S represents serine, and T represents threonine.

**Table 1: N-Terminal Sequences of Proteins**

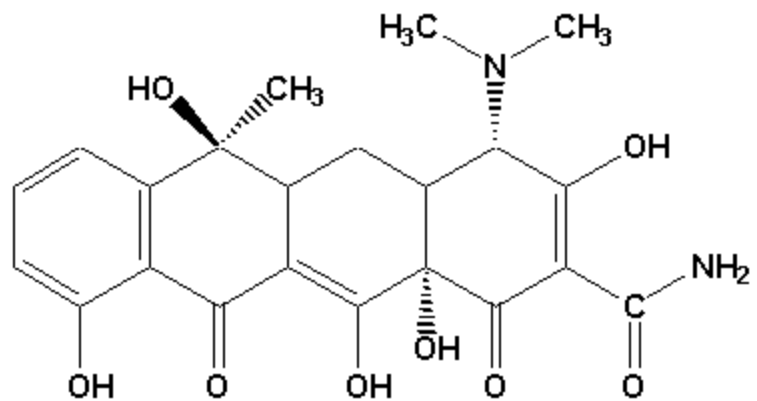
N-Terminal Sequence	Percent of Prokaryotic Proteins with This Sequence	Percent of Eukaryotic Proteins with This Sequence
MA*	28.24%	19.17%
MK**	10.59%	2.50%
MS*	9.41%	11.67%
MT*	7.65%	6.67%

\* Methionine was removed in all of these proteins

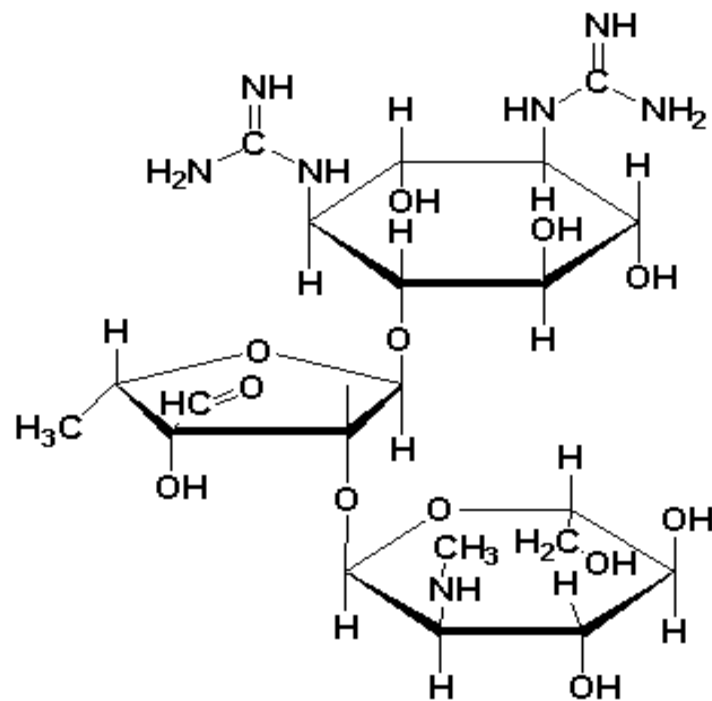
\*\* Methionine was not removed from any of these proteins



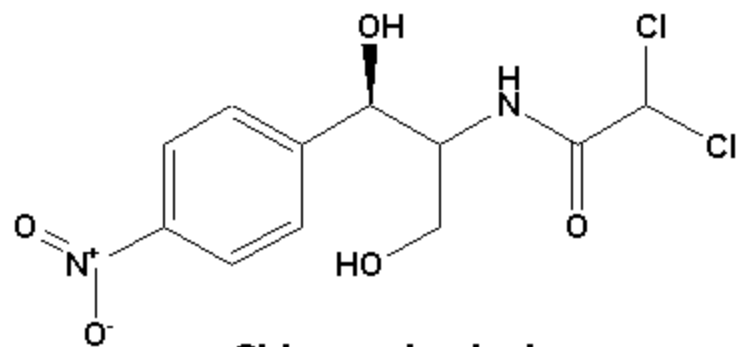
# Inibitori



**Tetracycline**

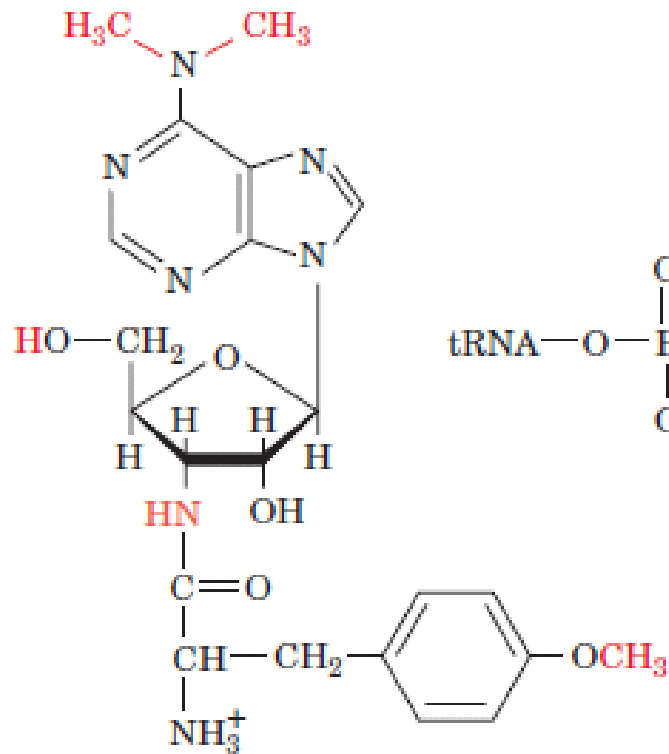


**Streptomycin**

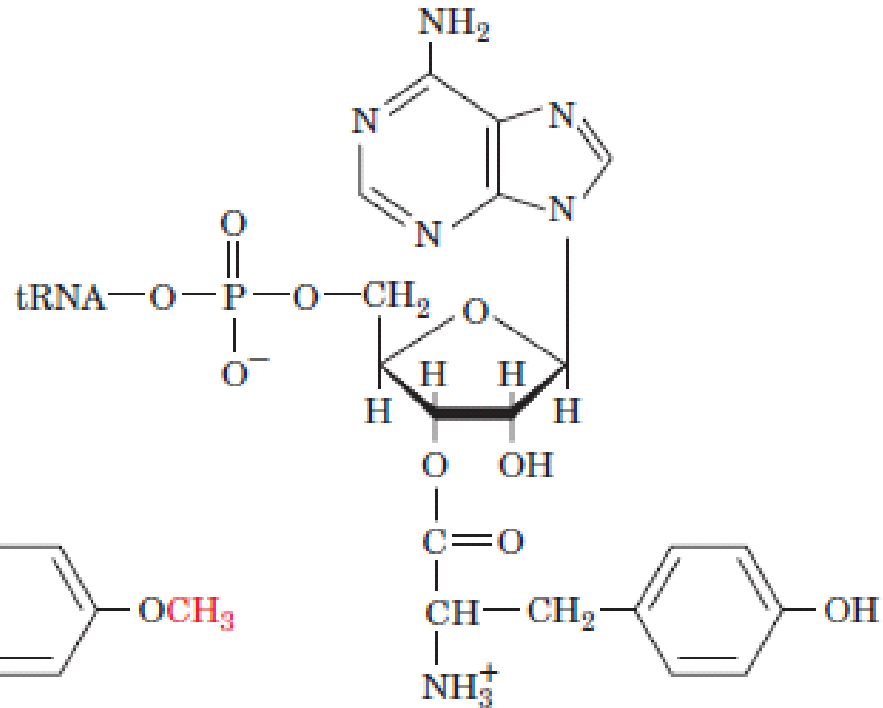


**Chloramphenicol**





**Puromycin**



**Tyrosyl-tRNA**

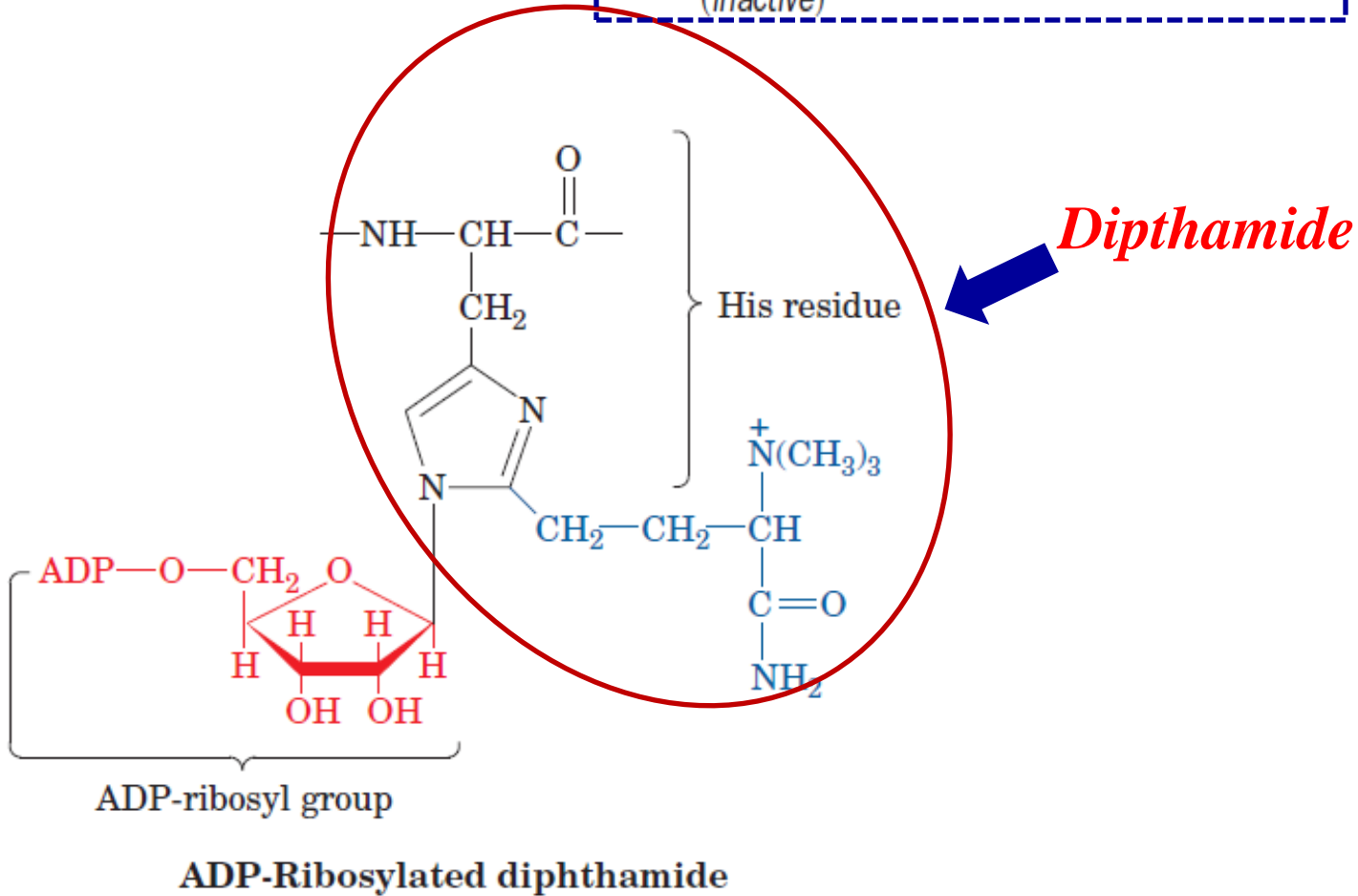
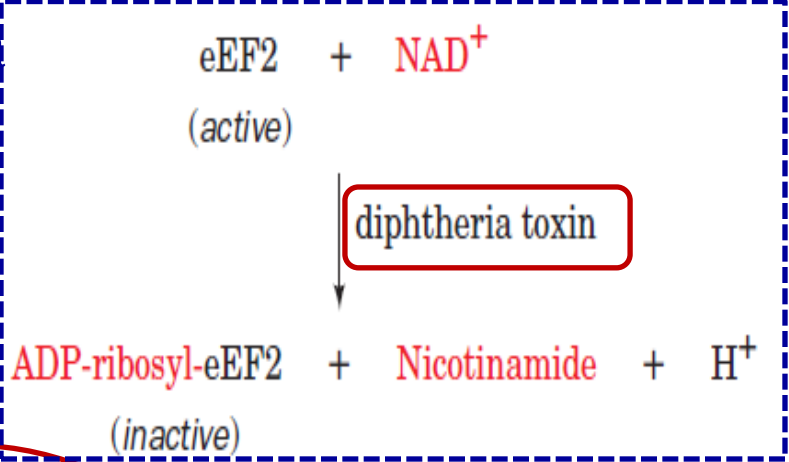
Molti composti inibiscono la traduzione in procarioti ed eucarioti

Inhibitor	Action
Chloramphenicol	Inhibits peptidyl transferase on the prokaryotic large subunit
Cycloheximide	Inhibits peptidyl transferase on the eukaryotic large subunit
Erythromycin	Inhibits translocation by the prokaryotic large subunit
Fusidic acid	Inhibits elongation in prokaryotes by binding to EF-G · GDP in a way that prevents its dissociation from the large subunit
Paromomycin	Increases the ribosomal error rate
Puromycin	An aminoacyl-tRNA analog that causes premature chain termination in prokaryotes and eukaryotes
Streptomycin	Causes mRNA misreading and inhibits chain initiation in prokaryotes
Tetracycline	Inhibits the binding of aminoacyl-tRNAs to the prokaryotic small subunit
Diphtheria toxin	Catalytically inactivates eEF2 by ADP-ribosylation

# Tossina della difterite

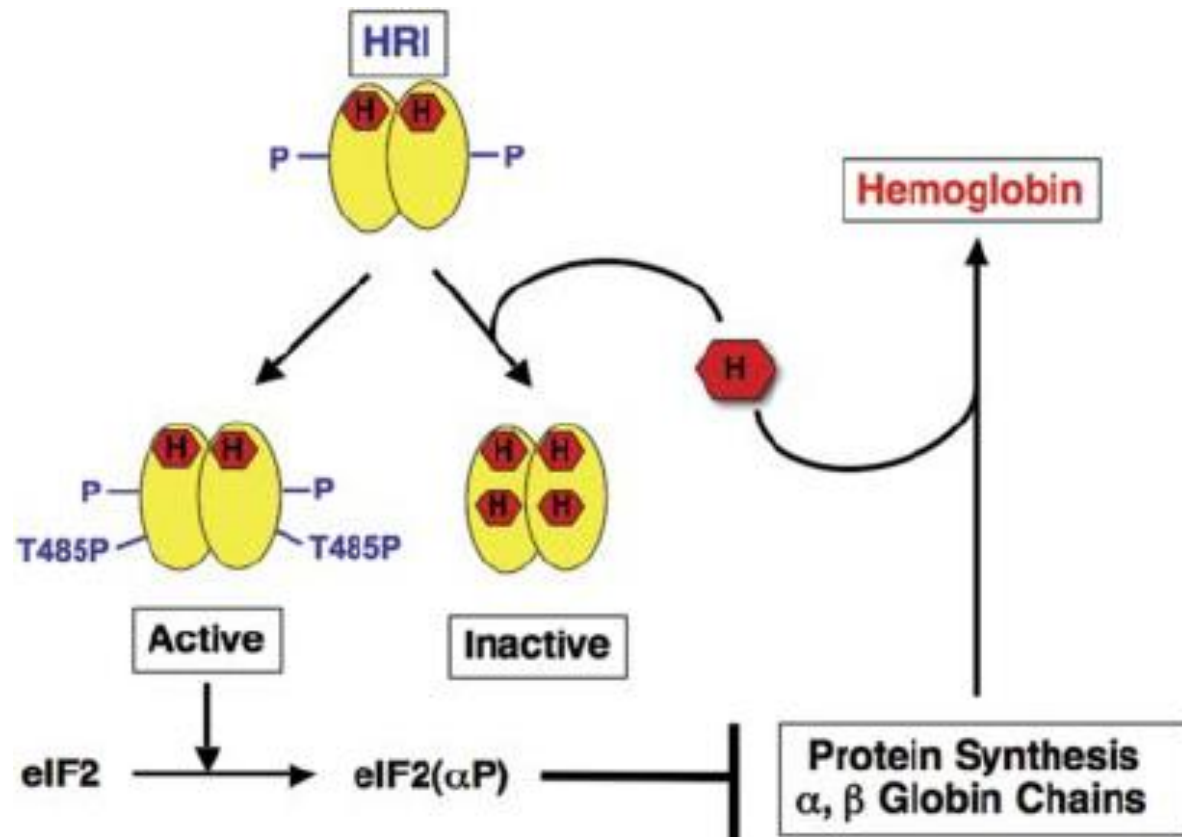
- **La difterite** e' una malattia risultante dall'infezione del batterio *Corynebacterium diphtheriae*.
- *Diphtheria toxin (DT)*, e' una proteina monomerica con **535 residui aminoacidici**, responsabili per gli effetti letali della malattia.
- *Diphtheria toxin* inattiva specificamente il factor di elungazione eucariotico eEF2, quindi inibendo la sintesi proteica eucariotica.

**La tossina della difterite catalizza la ribosilazione dell'ADP di una *diphthamide* (un'istidina modificata) di eEF2, inattivandolo.**



## Regolazione della sintesi di Eme & Emoglobina

- Negli eucarioti la disponibilità di **eme** controlla la sintesi di emoglobina.
- Alti livelli di **eIF2** e **GTP** sono essenziali per la traduzione dell'emoglobina.
- Una **eIF2** kinasi chiamata heme-regulated inhibitor (**HRI**) oppure heme-controlled repressor (**HCR**) regola la sintesi di emoglobina sulla base della presenza o assenza di **eme**.



HRI balances heme and globin synthesis by sensing intracellular heme concentrations. During the synthesis of hemoglobin, one molecule of heme is incorporated into each globin chain. When heme concentration is high, heme binds to the second heme-binding domain of HRI and keeps HRI in inactive state, thereby permitting globin protein synthesis and the formation of stable hemoglobin. In heme deficiency, HRI is activated by autophosphorylation. Activated HRI phosphorylates eIF2  $\alpha$  and inhibits globin protein synthesis by the mechanism illustrated. HRI, therefore, acts as a feedback inhibitor of globin synthesis to ensure no globin is translated in excess of the heme available for assembly of stable hemoglobin.

# Evoluzione del codice genetico

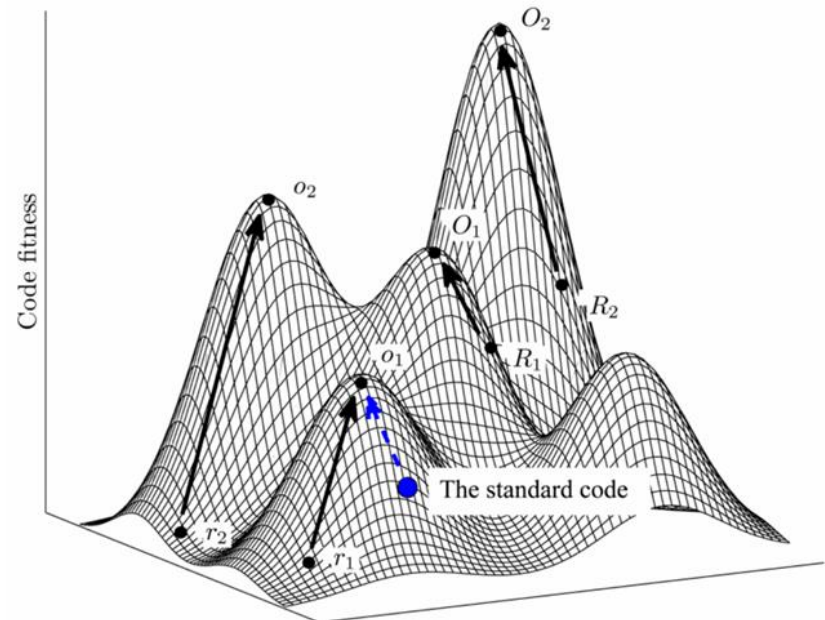
GCA	AGA								
GCC	AGG								
GCG	CGA						GGA		
GCU	CGC						GGC		AUA
	CGG	GAC	AAC	UGC	GAA	CAA	GGG	CAC	AUC
	CGU	GAU	AAU	UGU	GAG	CAG	GGU	CAU	AUU
Ala	Arg	Asp	Asn	Cys	Glu	Gln	Gly	His	Ile
A	R	D	N	C	E	Q	G	H	I
UUA					AGC				
UUG					AGU				
CUA				CCA	UCA	ACA			GUA
CUC				CCC	UCC	ACC			GUC
CUG	AAA		UUC	CCG	UCG	ACG		UAC	GUG
CUU	AAG	AUG	UUU	CCU	UCU	ACU	UGG	UAU	GUU
Leu	Lys	Met	Phe	Pro	Ser	Thr	Trp	Tyr	Val
L	K	M	F	P	S	T	W	Y	V
									UAA
									UAG
									UGA
									stop

Figure 6-50. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th Edition.

# Evoluzione del codice genetico

## Tre principali teorie:

- **Teoria adattativa:** l'evoluzione ha reso ottimale la corrispondenza codone-aminoacido. Improbabile che spieghi tutto visti gli ottimi locali di fitness, la varietà di organismi, e la possibilità di regolare la disponibilità dei vari tRNA.



**Fig. 3.**  
Evolution of codes in a rugged fitness landscape (a cartoon illustration).  
 $r_1, r_2 \in \mathbf{r}$  : random codes with the same block structure as the standard code  
 $o_1, o_2 \in \mathbf{o}$  : codes obtained from  $r_1, r_2 \in \mathbf{r}$  after optimization  
 $R_1, R_2 \in \mathbf{R}$  : random codes with fitness values greater than the fitness of the standard code  
 $O_1, O_2 \in \mathbf{O}$  : codes obtained from  $R_1, R_2 \in \mathbf{R}$  after optimization  
The figure is modified from (86).



# Evoluzione del codice genetico

## Tre principali teorie:

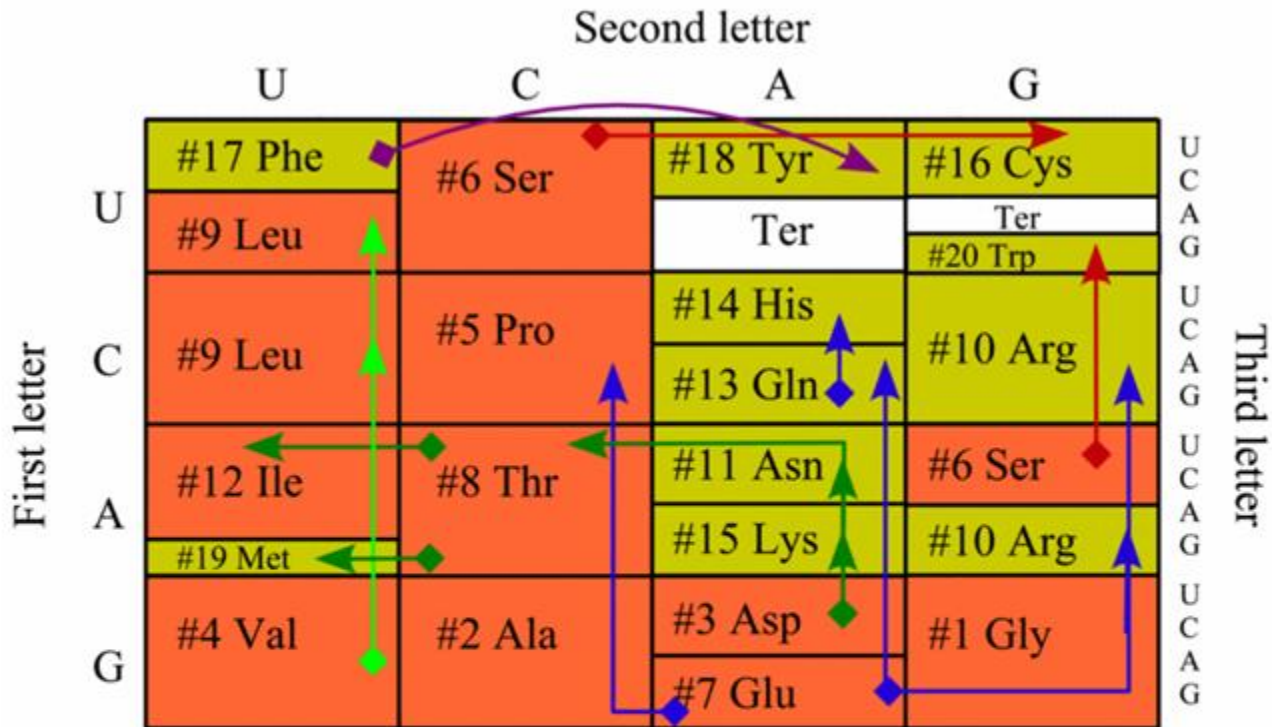
- Teoria adattativa: l'evoluzione ha reso ottimale la corrispondenza codone-aminoacido. Improbabile che spieghi tutto visti gli ottimi locali di fitness, la varietà di organismi, e la possibilità di regolare la disponibilità dei vari tRNA.
- **Teoria stereochimica:** corrispondenze biochimiche tra aminoacidi e codoni/anticodoni (Gamow, 1954). Non molto supportata.
- **Teoria coevolutiva:** teorizza il fatto che in una prima fase prebiotica esistessero meno aminoacidi. In seguito, questi aminoacidi si sarebbero specializzati e quindi "sottocodoni" (differenti per la terza base) sarebbero stati adottati per aminoacidi affini derivati o con pathway biosintetici comuni. La terza fase è quella delle modifiche post-traduzionali e degli aminoacidi modificati.

# Teoria coevolutiva

## Origin and evolution of the genetic code: the universal enigma

Eugene V. Koonin\* and Artem S. Novozhilov

National Center for Biotechnology Information, National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD 20894



**Fig. 4.**

The expansion of the standard code according to the coevolution theory. Phase 1 amino acids are orange, and phase 2 amino acids are green. The numbers show the order of amino acid appearance in the code according to (99). The arrows define 13 precursor-product pairs of amino acids, their color defines the biosynthetic families of Glu (blue), Asp (dark-green), Phe (magenta), Ser (red), and Val (light-green)